



Ruth Aline Nichols

April 18, 1931 - August 23, 2025

Ruth Aline Nichols passed away at the age of 94 on Friday, August 23, 2025. She was born on April 18, 1931 in Michigan's beautiful Keweenaw Peninsula region. Ruth loved to share memories of growing up in a large, loving family as one of 12 siblings. She was proud of her Finnish heritage and of being a Yooper.

After marrying her husband Glenn in 1950, Ruth and Glenn first lived in Madison Heights for years before they finally settled on their dream farm in Anchorville Michigan, where they raised five children and spent more than five decades building a life together. They lived a great story filled with love, compassion, positivity, and unwavering faith in Christ. Ruth loved nothing more than spending time with her children and extended family, whether she was cooking for a Sunday gathering, babysitting, or cheering the loudest for her grandchildren during sporting events. She left lasting memories that will be cherished by all.

Ruth returned to school in her 40s and became a registered nurse. Her passion for nursing resulted in a legacy of nurses in the family, with a daughter, son, and several grandchildren following in her footsteps. Just as she cared for patients, Ruth also nurtured friends and family through her cooking. Her love language was food, and if you came for a visit, you would be expected to eat. She could make any food on hand stretch to welcome

more at the table. Her meals were simple, plentiful, and delicious, and her kitchen was often filled with laughter. She never let anyone leave hungry and her open-door policy made everyone feel like family. Her pasties and raspberry jam were family favorites.

For several years Ruth delighted in hand quilting beautiful heirloom quilts for each family member. These treasures will be cherished and handed down for years to come. She also enjoyed volunteering and spent countless hours at SarahCare Adult Day Center in Sterling Heights – helping in the kitchen and sharing laughter with participants. Her warmth and kindness brightened their days. Ruth also volunteered weekly at Down River Helping Hands in Marine City. She organized clothing and helped with food drives, making a difference in her community.

She truly enjoyed spending time at church—whether attending Martin Road Gospel Hall, Lakeside Bible Chapel, a church in Florida or her current home church of Lighthouse Bible Church. She loved to learn, serve, and developed many lifelong friendships through fellowship.

While she is deeply missed by those who survive her, Ruth is now reunited with her beloved husband of 68 years, Glenn, her son James, daughter Nancy Duchane, son-in-law Frank Duchane, and her parents and siblings. She is survived by her children—Mike (Marie) Nichols, Dan (Mike Toppe) Nichols, and Sara (Dave) Follebout. She is also survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

There will be a visitation at Wasik Funeral Home in New Baltimore (35259 23 Mile Rd., New Baltimore, MI 48047) on Thursday, August 28, 2025 from 4 - 8pm. A private family service will be held in September. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to either The Village of East Harbor Benevolent Fund or the Lighthouse Bible Church Missions Fund,

causes that were dear to Ruth's heart.

Donations to Presbyterian Village Benevolent Fund can be made online at <https://pvmfoundation.org/donate/>, Select "East Harbor Benevolence" in the drop down option and please dedicate the gift in memory of Ruth Nichols. You can also donate by phone 248-281-2040, or by mailing a check to "PVM Foundation" at 25200 Telegraph Rd., Ste 400, Southfield, MI 48033 indicating it is for the Benevolent Fund at East Harbor. For the Lighthouse Bible Church Missions Fund, please contact the church office at (586) 725-9951 for more information on how to contribute.

Your support in honoring Ruth's legacy and the family's wishes is deeply appreciated.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **28**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Tribute Wall



“ A good 50 years ago I had the pleasure of working with Ruth as an aide in a nursing facility. Those were the early days of my career as I went on to become an RN as well. May you rest in peace.

Darlene Goch - September 04, 2025 at 05:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ruth Aline Nichols.

August 28, 2025 at 08:50 AM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Aline Nichols.



August 28, 2025 at 08:50 AM



“ I had the pleasure of taking care of Ruth. She always knew how to put a smile on my face and make me laugh. Her famous line is “Oh boy, wait till you get to me my age.” She said this to me every morning as I would help her get ready for the day. Ruth was one of my favorites and I will miss her dearly. I will miss our little walks outside and talks. Ruth you are sweetest and thank you for letting me take care of you.



Viviana - August 27, 2025 at 08:48 AM

HE

“ I had the pleasure of serving Ruth at The Village of East Harbor. I send my condolences to her family. This is a beautiful tribute to the woman that she was. Always bright, warm, and welcoming. My favorite memory of Ruth is from a few months ago. We were talking for about 30 minutes and I told her I had to get going. She thanked me for our chat and asked if I would like to move in since there was a place a open near her. I chuckled and said I didnt quite meet the age requirement to live at The Village. She took my hands and said "That's a shame because I'd really enjoy being your neighbor."
I'd have really enjoyed being her neighbor, too.

Heather - August 27, 2025 at 07:00 AM

SU

“ It was always a pleasure to talk with Ruth at the Nichols/Follebout gatherings. She was always cheerful and smiling. We were fortunate to have visited with her a few days before she passed. We will truly miss Ruth.

Sharon and Tom Urban - August 26, 2025 at 01:22 PM

TF

“ Tim Hoganson, for our family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ruth Aline Nichols.



Tim Hoganson, for our family - August 26, 2025 at 05:47 AM

SD

“ I had the great pleasure of doing Ruth’s hair for the past 15 or so years. I looked forward to seeing her every 6ish weeks. I was also lucky enough to see her at Saracare. She had such a wonderful family that she enjoyed talking about. She always had the best attitude about life even after she lost her husband and son and daughter. She had such faith in God through it all. I admired that about her. I will miss our talks greatly but know that you are so happy to be back with your husband and children that you missed so greatly. May you rest in peace sweet lady ☐

Stacey Demick - August 25, 2025 at 06:04 PM