



Bernice C. Rice

May 8, 1926 - February 2, 2016

Bernice C. Rice, 89, of Fishers, passed away on February 2, 2016 at Community North Hospital Indianapolis. She was born on May 8, 1926 in Kentucky and resided most of her life in Anderson

Bernice graduated from Sandcreek High School in 1944, and worked for both Delco Remy and Guide Lamp Divisions of General Motors.

She was a member of Anderson First United Methodist Church, and she enjoyed visiting with her family and friends.

Bernice is survived by her loving sons, Eddie Rice of Fishers, Scott (Carol) Rice of Fishers, grandchildren, Spencer Cohen, Grace Rice, Michael Rice, Zoie Rice, siblings, Mitchell (Betty) Coombs of Georgia, John Wayne (Faith) Coombs of Westport, IN, many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph E. Rice, mother, Ina Coombs, father, John Coombs, son, John Preston Rice, sister, Martha Cooper, sister, Marguerite Caldwell, and brother, Gayle Coombs.

Visitation will be held Sunday, February 7, 2016, 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm at Robert D. Loose Funeral Homes & Crematory, 200 West 53rd St. Anderson, IN.

Services will be at 11:30 am, Monday, February 8, 2016, at the funeral home with Pastor Nathan Peternel officiating.

Burial will take place in Anderson Memorial Park.

Memorial contributions may be made to Disabled Veterans Association.

www.loosecares.com

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

6805 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Anderson, IN 46013

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 7. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Loose Funeral Homes & Crematory
200 W 53rd St
Anderson, IN 46013
(765) 649-5255
info@loosecares.com

Service

FEB 8. 11:30 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Loose Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Bernice C. Rice*



Loose Funeral Home - February 06, 2016 at 10:56 AM

DM

“ *Scott, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My heart and prayers are sent to you and your family today in hopes that it gives you strength during this difficult time. Your mom is next to God now and can smile upon you knowing that she raised a fine young man and she can now watch over you from above. May God rest her soul and give you peace that she is being cared for and loved in heaven.*

Donna Martin

Donna Martin - February 08, 2016 at 12:14 PM

KR

“ *The first memory that comes to my mind is the first time I met Aunt Bernice. I was new to the family but you wouldn't of know because she was one of the first people I met at the reunion and she made me feel like I've always been in the family. Her smile and welcoming heart just welcomes you in. I fell in love with her right away, you couldn't help but do it. I use to love hearing her stories, she told the best stories. I never got to meet my dads mom so I loved hearing about them as little girls. They were crazy and had so much fun. I loved that! You will be missed aunt Bernice. You had a beautiful heart and I'm so lucky to have known you.*

Love you.

Love,

Kristiana

kristiana - February 07, 2016 at 01:28 PM

DC

“ *Each visit to Anderson to spend a day with Aunt Bernice, Uncle Ralph, and Ed was a personal adventure as a little kid. She had a collection of classic novels that included titles like "Swiss Family Robinson" and "Black Arrow". I would often read about half of a book during a trip and would remember where I left off. During winters a favorite spot to read was by the huge floor heater vent between the kitchen and living room. Add the chocolate yeast donuts and apple cider that became a tradition, and I was quite content.*

When I was about 6-7 years old, Aunt Bernice fixed up an area for me to finger paint. A small kids-sized folding table was covered by a waxy table cloth. She showed me how to wet the paper first. The colors smeared and flowed with my hands delighting in the sensual experience. That was the only time I actually finger-painted, but the memory is still fresh and revered.

Dan Cooper - February 07, 2016 at 12:41 PM

KW

“ It was hard to think about specific memories over the last few days...to be able to think of one thing to share became difficult. Being one of the few family members to have not been born in the state, and growing up so far away, did not hinder the amount of affection that I have held for my extended family. I would say that most of my extended family just felt like a part of my immediate family. One thing that living far away allowed was the amount of time we got to spend with uncles, aunts and cousins, because we were able to spend many days together at a time...whether it was us coming to visit everyone in Indiana, or the many visits we had from family while we lived in both Maryland and Georgia. And, looking back, it's amazing to think that we actually had so many of these opportunities. Many people I talk to say they don't even really know their cousins...I just can't imagine that...I feel blessed.

I, like many others, have special memories of hearing Aunt Bernice, my dad, and whichever other siblings were there at the time, talking about their lives growing up. It was always fun, and they always made you feel like you were growing up there, in the story, with them. Aunt Bernice's laughter was a special part of the story-telling. I would have to say, like others have said, the main thing I remember about her is the smiling and laughing. She made you feel like it mattered that you came into the room.

This seems insignificant, but for some reason, this is a memory that has stuck with me. When we stayed with Aunt Bernice, Ed and Scott when I was younger, Scott and I, of course, just wanted to stay up late, play games, watch movies, eat junk food, etc, and we HAD to sleep on the floor. Aunt Bernice really couldn't understand why I wanted to sleep on the floor, and she would try to convince me otherwise each time we were there. It would end up with her conceding with a "Well...okay". I think I started looking forward to this little exchange, it was so funny to me at the time. But, when you think about it, it's the seemingly insignificant things that make up a life. Like they say, what is remembered by others is how you make them feel. I feel fortunate that we all have lived long enough that I

have the memory of Aunt Bernice making me feel special whenever I walked into the room, and to witness the same with my own kids...she would "light up" the same way when they came in. She was a special lady, and I'm happy that she was a part of my life.

Karen Walker - February 07, 2016 at 10:29 AM

TC

“ *My favorite memory of Aunt Bernice was the Christmas Eve dinner she shared with us when she found out she was going to be a great aunt. She was so excited.*

Aunt Bernice was a very special lady, full of love and enjoyed being with her family. I enjoyed our many Sunday visits with her, Ed and Scott. We always had a fun filled afternoon. You will be missed Aunt Bernice.

Teresa Cooper - February 06, 2016 at 10:11 PM

LC

“ *I remember spending New Years Eve night with Ed, Uncle Ralph and Aunt Bernice. Janet, Ed and I went bowling, Ed won.*

One Sunday afternoon, we visited Aunt Bernice and played whiffle ball in the backyard. I fell running from third base to home. I cracked two ribs. After the game we cooked out. I enjoyed spending fun afternoons with Aunt Bernice.

Numerous evenings I would call to checkin with Aunt Bernice. We would talk about upcoming family events, things that had happened and she would give me helpful advice. Most of all, I will miss our conversations. Love Les

Les Cooper - February 06, 2016 at 09:32 PM

JL

“ I can remember countless weekend spend overs at with Bernice and Ed playing games and playing their piano keyboard in the living room. I also loved having a special Christmas visit each year. -
Justin Lahr

Justin Lahr - February 06, 2016 at 03:43 PM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes

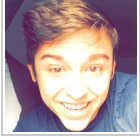


Loose Funeral Home - February 06, 2016 at 10:45 AM

Mary
Cooper

“ Aunt Bernice always had a smile. Her face would just light up at the sight of the kids. Big kids or small ones. She took such joy in playing with them and making them laugh. She had the best smile and I think I will remember her most when I see one of us smiling.
---Mary

Mary Cooper - February 05, 2016 at 08:12 PM



“ One of the many memories I have of my Grandmother was when I was very young; I spent the night at her home and we both woke up to the sound of hail pounding down on the roof of the house. We had to light candles and use flashlights because the storm turned the power off. We just sat by the sliding glass door and watched it rain and storm. I will never forget that night.
Every time that I spent the night she would read me a story and tell me stories of when she was younger and what she would do with her friends and siblings.
I love my Grandma so much and I will truly miss her, but I know that she will always be in my heart and in my memories.
I love you grandma, forever and always.
Spencer

Spencer Cohen - February 05, 2016 at 07:44 PM

CM

“ My memories are also about the reunions. For a few times, we stayed with Aunt Bernice. Since I was a kid, I remember the games, which was mostly the card game 31. There would be a kitchen full of people, huddled around the table; each of us holding three pennies for the game. (How Eddie loved this part of the day!!) It was such a relaxing environment with amusing chats and easy laughter.

Another favorite memory is Aunt Bernice's beef stroganoff. Seriously it was one of the best meals of my childhood. I even approached my mom and asked her to get the recipe, but she was already a step ahead and had gotten it- Thank you, Aunt Bernice!! Every time my mom duplicated that meal, I thought of Aunt Bernice.

I'm really grateful to be a part of this family, to have known her, and to have her in my memories.

Carrie (Coombs) Mescall

Carrie Mescall - February 05, 2016 at 04:13 PM

FC

I will always remember Bernice taking me for rides on the motor scooter down highway 3 all the way to Sardinia and back. Special times for a little boy. Fortunately the traffic wasn't so bad then.

I had to be bribed with the promise of a fire truck to participate in her wedding.

All the many visits while we all sat around the table long after lunch was over.

John "Wayne" Coombs

Faith Coombs - February 06, 2016 at 07:24 PM

JA

“*While reflecting upon all the memories made with Aunt Bernice, I've come to notice a theme. Each interaction was full of overflowing love. From getting a box of locally-made chocolates every Christmas to sharing banana cream pie over lunch, these seemingly small moments are what stick out to me now.*

As I've gotten older, I came to appreciate Aunt Bernice's story telling. It was such a privilege to hear about the shenanigans her and the other aunts and uncles would get in to growing up. I only wish I would've asked to hear more of these stories.

I've found comfort in knowing she has been reunited with those loved ones who preceded her and that she is no longer suffering. I love you so much, Aunt Bernice, and miss you already

Jaelyn - February 05, 2016 at 11:47 AM

RH

“ I think my memories all stem around the Reunion. The joy and smiles on each of their faces and one by one we all came driving in. The kitchen being full of cooks and the laughter. Who made this? What is in it? How hard is it to make. I love those moments. My fondest memory is of Aunt Bernice showing me her and Eddie's new home downstairs. SHE LOVED IT!! It stated her in every way. She loved the space - the kitchen, easy to clean and we had to see all. She was so happy and content. Best of all her Grandchildren were right up stairs :). The family photos at the reunion! Smiles so many smiles. I love you all.

Rhonda

rhonda - February 05, 2016 at 11:27 AM



“ (Great) Aunt Bernice has always been like a Grandmom to me! Some of my favorite moments include listening to the stories of her and Martha Evelyn's adventures as kids as well as adults (particularly one story involving a baby carriage full of kittens, a big mean bull, and leaving them both behind in a field). Those stories made me laugh and laugh and even cry sometimes. From those stories I learned it's important to live life to the fullest and to never take family for granted.

One of my most recent favorite moments was taking Aunt Bernice and Ed out to lunch up in Fishers. Afterwards, we even did a little shopping which she was so excited about! She always made you feel like the light in the room that brightened her day when really, it was the other way around. Whenever I think of Aunt Bernice I think of her laugh and summer time. Aunt Bernice wore her heart on her sleeve and loved unconditionally. I hope I can appreciate the little things the way she did. You will be dearly missed but I know you're watching over all of us now! Love you so much!

Jordan Lahr - February 05, 2016 at 11:17 AM



“ As Eddie, Scott and I were visiting in the hospital earlier this week, I recalled the times as a child that the Cooper family (Ray, Martha, Dan, Ron, Les, and Janet) would just hop in the car and drive to Anderson to visit the Rice family, Uncle Ralph, Aunt Bernice, Eddie (and later Scott!).

Mom and Dad sometimes wouldn't call ahead, just show up. As you can guess, this was before answering machines and cell phones (yes, and seatbelts). A few times, the Rice's weren't home. We would sit in their driveway for awhile and wait. Sometimes they showed up. A few times, we just drove back home. The Rices would do the same, sometimes just show up at our home.

When we did visit, I remember Dad and Uncle Ralph going to the donut shop (Ed, you remember the name). The kids would sit around the kitchen table, eat donuts and apple cider, and play table-top football. For those who don't know how to play, asked Eddie! He is quite the player!

This is just one tidbit of many when I think of Aunt Bernice. I think the thought I want to convey is how fortunate I feel that Aunt Bernice was part of my life. She help create a closeness between our two families which I could sense as a child and continues today. As sisters, Mom and Aunt Bernice were very close and that bond extended to all of us, as well to the whole Coombs family.

Thanks Aunt Bernice! I rejoice that your spirit is lifted! Fond memories always...

Ron Cooper - February 05, 2016 at 10:47 AM

JS

“ *Janet, Jim, Jordan, Jaclyn, Justin, Erin, Alyra and Sawyer purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bernice C. Rice.*



Janet, Jim, Jordan, Jaclyn, Justin, Erin, Alyra and Sawyer -
February 05, 2016 at 10:45 AM

DR

“ *David Wayne, Lee Anne, John, and Beth-Anne Rogers purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Bernice C. Rice.*



David Wayne, Lee Anne, John, and Beth-Anne Rogers -
February 04, 2016 at 07:30 PM