



Natalie Buckles

DEC 23, 1910 - AUG 4, 2010



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Decatur-Natalie Buckles, 99, of Decatur passed away 10:01 pm Wednesday, August 4, 2010 at Heritage Manor.

A memorial gathering to celebrate Natalie's life will be 11:00 am Saturday, September 18, 2010 at The Beach House, 2301 E. Lake Shore Drive, in Decatur. Memorial donations may be made to the 1st Presbyterian Church in Decatur or St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary. Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home assisted with arrangements. Online memories and condolences may be shared with Natalie's family at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.

Natalie was born December 23, 1910 in Fanano, Italy the daughter of Amilcare and Julia Maria (Gambaiani) Ricci. Natalie was twenty-one months old when she arrived at Ellis Island and moved to Decatur with her parents at the age of nine years old. She took a job at the age of fifteen at Linn & Scruggs Department Store in Decatur. Natalie married Bob Buckles April 20, 1929 in Decatur. Bob preceded her in death in 1964. Natalie was employed as a sales clerk for Sears and retired in 1976. She was very active in the Decatur community as she was a member of 1st Presbyterian Church, a Charter Member of the Decatur Yacht Club, she served on the YWCA board, volunteered 3,200 hours for St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary, she served as chaperone for young women on the 1984 U.S. Olympic swim team to Los Angeles, she was a past president of PTA, and she was also volunteer of the American Red Cross.

Natalie leaves behind to cherish her memories her sons Bob Buckles, Jr. of Phoenix, AZ, and Bill Buckles of Lorain, Ohio; a granddaughter Ruth (husband ' Steven) Young of Decatur, a grandson Bob (wife ' Susan) Buckles III of Plainfield, IL; her three great grandchildren Heidi Ellis, Drew Buckles, and Audrey Buckles; her former daughter-in-law Norma Fathauer of Decatur; a sister-in-law Beverly Ricci of Chico, CA and several nieces and nephews.



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She will be reunited in heaven with her husband Bob, her parents Amilcare and Julia, her brothers Primo Ricci and Rev. Louie Ricci and her sister Minnie Fedrigan.

Natalie's family would like to express heartfelt thanks to the staff at Heritage Manor in Mt. Zion for their care with a special thank you to Jamie Ueleke.

Natalie will be sadly missed by her family and a host of special friends.



Tribute Wall

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WK

Wanda King posted:

Dear Natalie's Family I want to express my deepest sympathy in the lost of your love one. Natalie was a very dear friend to me and I loved her dearly. She loved her family and God. When I would visit her she would always talk about her family and God and would say I am ready to go home and now she is home in Heaven. I went to see her the Wednesday before she died and we had a beautiful visit. We thank God for a Beautiful Mother, Grandmother and Friend. Natalie left us with beautiful memories and that is something no one can take away from us. She will always be with us in our hearts and thoughts. Love thru Christ, Wanda King. God saw that Natalie was getting tired and a cure was not to be; So he put His arms around her and whispered, "come with me." With tearful eyes in silence we saw her fade away. Although we loved her dearly, we could not make her stay. A golden heart stopped beating; Hard working hands laid to rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.

August 11 at 1:52 PM

SD

Sally Deem posted:

My memories of Mrs. B date back to when I was 13 years old and Father came into our lives and made us a family. Mrs. B was wonderful, funny, strong, had her own opinions of life that is for sure. But she was 99.9% right most of the time. I loved her dearly. Respected her and looked up to her as a role model of an excellent human being. God bless her family and friends. Thank you Mrs. B for being there for me, Mom, Pat, John, David and Wayne. I know that Father and Mr. B were standing by the golden door to welcome you home. Sally Lynn

August 11 at 7:09 AM

BM

Bill Mercer posted:

Bob, So sorry to learn of your Mother's passing. Looks like she had a good life. That what we all hope for. Best personal regards, Bill Mercer

August 8 at 10:06 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Natalie by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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