



## Ione Eunice Thom

April 28, 1925 - December 13, 2017

IONE EUNICE THOM

Eagle, Michigan

Age 92, passed away on December 13, 2017 in Grand Ledge, MI. She was born on her parents' farm on April 28, 1925 in Merrifield, North Dakota, to the late Anee and Mabel Gregoire. Her parents had a party line telephone and when they called the Doctor to come and help deliver her, the Doctor was too late in arriving by horse and carriage and she was already born. She lived through the Great Depression and World War II and experienced rationing during the war of such things as sugar, coffee, nylons, gasoline, and car tires. She always said that Prohibition never affected the farmers in North Dakota because Grandma Mabel made homemade wine from choke cherries and crab apples on the farm. Ione graduated from high school in 1943, along with her future husband, Louis E. Thom. In 1943-1946 she worked in the emergency rooms at hospitals in both Grand Forks and Fargo, North Dakota, while she waited for her future husband to return home from the war. Ione and Louis were married in 1947, after Louis returned home from the South Pacific, where he served in New Guinea and the Philippines with the US Army, during World War II. After marrying, they moved to Michigan where Louis attended Michigan State College (now University) on the GI Bill and they lived on campus in married housing. Ione had fond memories of working at the Sparrow Hospital switchboard for two years while Louis attended college

because she said she knew all of the hospital gossip from working the telephone switchboard.

After college, Louis started his own plumbing business and worked in Lansing, Michigan and the surrounding communities, while Ione fielded the business calls and scheduled jobs and raised their growing family, which eventually grew to thirteen children. Ione was predeceased by her parents, her husband Louis, who passed away at age 86, her son Gregory, who passed away at age 57, and one brother, Kenny Gregoire.

Ione served as the matriarch to the Thom family, ensuring her family always had a hot meal and home-made baked goods and she loved to listen to WITL radio station in Lansing while she worked fixing meals in the kitchen. She frequently called in to the "Tradio" program on WITL to sell items over the radio, long before the internet and Craigslist and E-bay were invented. She was a prayer warrior who taught her family to love and forgive. She loved her husband and all of her children and stood by them all through thick and thin, through trials and tribulations, and through achievements and happy times. She was active in the Lady's Altar Society at each parish she attended, including Resurrection and Saint Mary's Cathedral parishes in Lansing, Michigan and St Michael's parish in Grand Ledge, Michigan. Although many of her Altar Society friends have now predeceased her, she never forgot any of them and talked of fondness about Altar Society meetings and her friends. She also remained a true friend to many neighbors, who resided nearby her various residences. She especially talked of fond memories of traveling to Rome, Italy with her husband and the Hans Larsen family. Ione stated that true friends are hard to find in life and should be treasured and honored. Ione is survived by her loving family: Children, Paul (Julie) Thom, Paula Busby, Chad (Debra) Thom, Mark (Tina) Andrews Thom, Lou Ann Thom, Kevin (Linda) Thom, Mary Kabia, Kara Kabia, Louis Thom Jr., Lora Thom, Ann (Paul) Leifker, and Rose Leifker, daughter-in-law Brenda Thom, wife to the late Gregory Thom, 26 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren, 1 great great grandchild, sisters Willa Mae Mercil of Crookston, Minnesota, Delores

Brunette of Fargo, North Dakota, and Ada Ostgaard of California, and brother Dennis (Betty) Gregoire of Merrifield, North Dakota.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated Tuesday, December 19, 2017, 11:00 a.m. at Saint Michael Catholic Church, Grand Ledge by The Reverend Fr. James Eisele. Rite of Committal will follow at Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery on Willow St., in Lansing. Visitation will be Monday from 4-8:00 p.m. with a Scripture Service at 7:30 p.m. at the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Michael Catholic Church, 345 Edwards Street, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837 or St. Michael School, 345 Edwards Street, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837. Share your memories and condolences online at [www.holihanatkin.com](http://www.holihanatkin.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery

2520 W. Willow  
Lansing, MI 48917

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 18. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-2531  
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Scripture Service

DEC 18. 7:30 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-2531  
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Visitation

---

DEC 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Michael Catholic Church  
345 Edwards Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

## Funeral Mass

---

DEC 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Michael Catholic Church  
345 Edwards Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

# Tribute Wall



“ *Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of lone Eunice Thom*



**Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home** - December 21, 2017 at 09:17 AM

MA

“ *Mark Andrews sent a virtual gift in memory of lone Eunice Thom*



**mark andrews** - December 23, 2017 at 09:23 PM

MA

“ *Mark Andrews lit a candle in memory of lone Eunice Thom*



**mark andrews** - December 23, 2017 at 08:47 PM

MA

*Gabriels Shamrocks!*

**mark andrews** - December 23, 2017 at 08:48 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**mark andrews** - December 23, 2017 at 03:47 PM

MA

“ *Mom's Peach Pie.*



---

**mark andrews** - December 23, 2017 at 09:16 AM

MA

“ *Mother's Soulmates.*



---

**mark andrews** - December 23, 2017 at 06:13 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**mark andrews** - December 22, 2017 at 05:17 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**mark andrews** - December 22, 2017 at 05:13 PM

JT

“ Thank you for passing on *Grandma Mables Lefse recipe* .



---

**Julie Mulvihill Thom** - December 21, 2017 at 08:48 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**mark andrews** - December 20, 2017 at 10:12 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**mark andrews** - December 20, 2017 at 09:15 AM

MA

“ All My Love Mom next to Dad at Your Burial Plot.....A Regretful Day for Many.

---

**mark andrews** - December 19, 2017 at 08:23 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**mark andrews** - December 19, 2017 at 06:39 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of lone Eunice Thom.



December 17, 2017 at 08:25 PM



“ 67 files added to the album lone



Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home - December 17, 2017 at 03:11 PM



“ I did not know this beautiful soul, but want to thank her family for sharing her amazing life in the obituary. God bless you and may lone rest in eternal peace.

Sue Kohler - December 17, 2017 at 07:47 AM



“ Glad I could Always be there as the one You and Dad relied on to be on the Plmb. Truck to make the Family Business Thrive!

mark andrews - December 17, 2017 at 05:49 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



mark andrews - December 17, 2017 at 04:31 AM

MA

*From the East Lansing Art Fair Two Summers Ago.....Author/Mark Andrews.*

mark andrews - December 17, 2017 at 08:32 AM

MA

*Author/Mark Andrews.....2016 East Lansing Art Festival.*

mark andrews - December 17, 2017 at 09:14 AM

MA

*Coming from a place of Honor!*

mark andrews - November 03, 2020 at 06:57 AM

RE

“ *Our condolences to Paul, his many sisters and brothers, their spouses and their children. Having known Paul for many many years it is not hard to believe what a wonderful woman his Mother was.*

*Ron Emery*

Ron EMERY - December 16, 2017 at 10:07 AM

CG

“ i had the great pleasure of knowing lone through her daughter Paula she always showed me the upmost respect such a lovely person may she rest in peace with her husband and son in heaven and in the hands of the good lord with angels surrounding them

---

**Cynthia Green** - December 16, 2017 at 09:23 AM

LS

“ I never met lone but I spoke with her numerous times when calling Lou with yet another plumbing problem. We would hear wonderful things about her and the family while Lou was working on our plumbing. How he enjoyed talking! We miss him very much. Condolences to lone's entire family.  
Linda Schoenl

---

**Linda Schoenl** - December 16, 2017 at 07:55 AM

RO

“ One of the best friends I💎💎💎 ever have. I'll truly miss our talks Mom. ❤️ Your baby girl!!!!

---

**Rose** - December 15, 2017 at 05:44 PM

MA

“ My Heart of Hearts!.....Love,Mark.

---

**mark andrews** - December 15, 2017 at 08:38 AM

JH

“ I did not know Mrs. Thom but was so impressed with the history of her life when reading her beautifully worded obituary. What a quality person! The world needs more people like her. May she rest in peace and the Lord welcome her into his open arms and thank her for a job well done while on earth. I wish I would have know her. My condolences to her family.

*Joanna Skupien Harrington*

---

**Joanna Skupien Harrington** - December 15, 2017 at 07:54 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of lone Eunice Thom.



---

December 14, 2017 at 09:12 PM

JS

“ Many fond memories and the love given to all by lone will forever be with us. Sincerely and hugs to all left here to carry on as she would want of us.

---

**Jackie and Ken Smith** - December 14, 2017 at 03:40 PM

MA

*Love You Mom.....Mark & Tina Andrews..... Your Big Heart is even more Magnified in Passing.*

---

**mark** - December 15, 2017 at 08:25 AM