

Viola M. VanSkiver

Viola M. (Kinninger) VanSkiver, 88, formerly of Maria Stein, passed away at 2:55 a.m. Thursday, October 6, 2011, at Otterbein in St. Marys, where she had been a resident for more than six years.

She was born on July 19, 1923, in Uno, Ohio, as the fifth child of Harry and Emma (Varno) Kinninger.

She attended schools in St. Patrick and Minster, graduating from Minster High School in 1942. In the late 1940s, she lived in Dayton with her two older sisters and worked at the National Cash Register Company.

She met her future husband, Randall K. VanSkiver, on his birthday, March 30, 1947, in Dayton. After learning they worked on the same floor at NCR, they would eat lunch together everyday. On July 19, 1947, Randall and Viola became engaged. Six months after meeting, they were married on Sept. 27, 1947, at St. Augustine Church in Minster. After their marriage, they remained in Dayton, where their daughter, Diane Kay, was born. Around 1955, they purchased King's Korner Kafe in Maria Stein and changed the name to the Korner Kafe. Randall's mother and stepfather, Gertrude and Ted Girton, were co-owners. After Randall died in 1959, Viola sold the business. Viola then worked as a secretary in the Marion Local School office, and later as a grocery clerk in Minster. In 1967, she began working at Copeland Industries in Sidney, from which she retired. Viola enjoyed gardening, bowling and playing cards before and after retirement. She especially enjoyed following the Marion Local High School football and basketball teams. Viola has been a member of St. John's Catholic Church since moving to Maria Stein. She was also a member of the Knights of St. John Auxiliary Uniform Rank in Maria Stein.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Diane VanSkiver Gagel and Joseph Gagel of Monclova, Ohio; two granddaughters, Rachel (Matt) Risler of Grayslake, Ill., and Mandy Gagel, Chicago and two great-grandchildren, Abigail and Kaitlyn Risler. She is also survived by two sisters, Lula Vondrell of Cincinnati, Nancy Roby of Harbinger, N.C., along with numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband; two sisters, Alvina Simmerman, Mildred Moore; three brothers, Gustwin, Adrian and Urban Kinninger; one nephew, Danny Moore; her special friend, Marce Rentz.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 10, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Maria Stein, with the Rev. Gene Schnipke officiating. Burial was held in St. John Cemetery in Maria Stein. Memorial contributions may be directed to Grand Lake Hospice or the Marion Local Schools Foundation. Condolences may be made at www.hogenkampfh.com.