

## **Viola Elmira (Treadwell) Murphy Clarke**

Viola Elmira (Treadwell) Murphy Clarke, 101, of Fort Erie, Ontario, died Wednesday, March 16, 2011 in Maple Park Lodge in Fort Erie.

She was born March 1, 1910 in St. Thomas, Ontario to Roy and Julia Mae (Shipman) Treadwell. She married John L. Murphy June 29, 1931 in Detroit. He died Dec. 12, 1968. She later married Arthur H. Clarke on Feb. 27, 1970. He died May 20, 1981.

Viola resided in Michigan from 1931. She became an American Citizen in 1942, returning to Canada December 2008. Viola was a long time member of the United Protestant Church of Port Austin. She lived through the depression and has traveled the world, including Australia, Europe, New Zealand, Alaska and Hawaii. During World War II, she traveled over most of the U.S. when her husband, John, was in the Army. Viola worked for Maytag as a product demonstrator. She loved to knit and crochet and even though she was legally blind, she made well over 100 lap robes for veterans. In later years, she attended HDC Adult Day Service in Port Austin and Bad Axe and enjoyed every minute of it. Everyone said she was a joy to be around and she had a wonderful outlook on life. Viola always had a smile and never complained or had a harsh word for or against anyone. She was very independent and stood her ground for what she wanted and what was right. She was the matriarch of her family and will be missed.

A dear Aunt, Viola has remained close to niece, Beverley (Binns) Monaghan and her husband, Peter, of Port Colborne, Ontario; grand nephews, Patrick Monaghan and partner, Nancy Charlton, Shawn Monaghan and partner, Sue Richards, of Minden, Ontario, Daniel Monaghan and partner, Christine Topley, of Grimsby, Ontario, Kelly (Monaghan) and Edwin Quail and especially grand niece and nephew, Leighla and James Quail of Barrie, Ontario; as well as many nieces and nephews located in Calgary, Alberta and Darmouth, Nova Scotia; first cousins living in Hamilton and North Bay, Ontario; and half brother's wife, Iola Pat Thomas of Calgary, Alberta. Viola was step-grandmother to Jacquelin (Clarke) Wozniak and husband, Frank, of Fort Smith, Alaska and Katherine Clarke of Westfield, Mass.; step-great-grandmother to Nathan, Dylan, John and Kristin. She also has many nieces and nephews on the Murphy side.

She is preceded in death by her dear sister, Lela Binns; and half brother, William Thomas.

Special thanks to friends Rose and Gary Respondek and Linda and Ron Birchfield. Til memory fades and life departs, you will live forever in our hearts.

Funeral service to be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 29, 2011 in Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City with The Rev. David Freeland, of United Protestant Church of Port Austin, officiating. Interment will be in Elkland Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Pallbearers for Mrs. Clarke will be Patrick Monaghan, Shawn Monaghan, Harold Froude, Gary Respondek and Ron Birchfield.

Memorials may be made to Salvation Army or American Heart and Stroke Association.

Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com).

Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 29 in Kranz Funeral Home in Cass City.

Arrangements by Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City, Michigan.