



Ruth Evangeline Kessel Judy

Ruth Evangeline Kessel Judy, age 97, of Peru, WV, passed away on Monday, November 5, 2018 at Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center, Petersburg, WV. Born on November 1, 1921 at Kessel, WV, she was the daughter of the late Ervin Evers Kessel and Olive Bergdall Kessel. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, William Hayes Judy, Jr. on February 22, 1995, whom she married on September 4, 1953. Four brothers also preceded her in death: Brown, Warren and Robert Kessel, all having served in the Navy during World War II, and infant David William.

She is survived by three sons: Bill (wife Christy), David (wife Debbie), and George (wife Cathy) Judy all of Moorefield, WV; three grandchildren: John David (wife Rachel), Kevin and Aaron Judy; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Ruth graduated from Moorefield High School, Moorefield, WV in 1939 and graduated from the Church Home School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD as a registered nurse in 1943. She received advance training in pediatrics and psychology at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD and after graduation, during World War II, she worked as a nurse at Church Home until 1944, then at Fort Howard until 1946 caring primarily for returning servicemen.

In 1946, Ruth returned to Moorefield and worked at the Hardy County Department of Health, Moorefield, WV as a public health nurse until 1954. She attended Case Western Reserve of Cleveland, OH during the summer of 1951 and completed graduate training in advanced public health nursing.

Ruth was active in farming and raising a family on the Judy farm at Peru, WV. She was a 4-H leader for over 25 years, a 4-H All Star, a member of the Eastern Star, past president of the Moorefield American Legion Auxiliary, served on the Hardy County Board of Health for over 42 years, a member of the West Virginia Farm Bureau for over 60 years and a member of the Grace Lutheran Church, Petersburg, WV.

She was a pioneer in initiating health programs in Hardy County prior to the existence of such programs including multiple clinics and the immunization of adults and children. She was instrumental in establishing home visits and service club involvement with the county health department. With home visits she became a familiar figure, assessing needs, and providing appropriate care. Community service clubs were used to educate larger numbers of residents and to supplement funds as needed for individuals. These steps created strong bonds within the community and helped to cement the value of the health department to the individual and their family.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, November 8, 2018 at Elmore Funeral Home, Moorefield, WV. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 9, 2018 at Elmore Funeral Home, Moorefield, WV with Pastor Rick Bergdoll officiating. Burial will follow at the Maple Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, WV. Memorial Donations may be made to the Grace Lutheran Church, 5 Pine Street, Petersburg, WV 26847 or Grant Rehabilitation and Care Center, 127 Early Avenue, Petersburg, WV 26847.

Arrangements are under the direction of Elmore Funeral Home.