



Elfriede Maria Ward

AUG 18, 1923 - AUG 15, 2016



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Funeral services for Elfriede Maria Ward, 92, of DeRidder, LA, will be held at 2 PM Saturday, August 20, 2016, at Labby Memorial Funeral Home Chapel in DeRidder, LA, with Rev. Lee Roy Johnson officiating. Burial will follow in Whitaker Cemetery in DeRidder under the direction of Labby Memorial Funeral home in DeRidder. Visitation will be held Friday, August 19, 2016, from 12 noon until 9 PM, and from 9 AM until time of the service Saturday, August 20, 2016, in the funeral home.

Born August 18, 1923, Graz, Austria, to Aloise and Wilhelmine Haury Weber, She passed away Monday, August 15, 2016, in Beauregard Memorial Hospital in DeRidder. She is survived by four sons, Reinhold Schwaighofer (Renate) of Hallawang, Austria, Harold K. Ward (Glory) and James A Ward (Christa), both of DeRidder, and Rodney L. Ward (Shannon) of West Monroe, LA; two daughters, Eva Blatchley (Peter) of Hutschenhausen, Germany, and Elizabeth Elliott (J. C.) of DeRidder, eighteen grandchildren, Danielle, who assisted her grandmother in her last days, Wiley, Gavin, Michael, Andrew, Larry, Jr., Jenifer, Connie, Rhonda, Harold, Jr., Christopher, Rebekah, Roy, Jr., Jackie, Jacklyn, Ashley and Alexander; thirty-one great grandchildren and three great, great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, James W. Ward, and two daughters, Barbara Cantrell and Christine M. Cox and one grandson, Jonathan Blatchley.

Born in Graz, Austria in 1923, she grew up in rural Ilz, Austria. In the extended family tradition she spent much of her childhood on her grandparent's farm where they grew and raised most everything they needed. She often spoke of going to the Vienna Opera House and loved "The Sound of Music", as she could see all the places she had been to in Salzburg. She worked and trained at the nearby castle as castle staff and in gourmet restaurants. When she was entering young womanhood the Nazis invaded her land and town and her life was turned upside-down. She soon became displaced from her home and thru-out the war (WWII) traveled from place to place, usually afoot with suitcase in hand amidst constant bombing, starvation and being separated from family and friends. Her father, of whom she was very proud and was a Police Inspector, was killed in the war and she and her brother became separated and forever lost to each



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other. After the war during the 50's, she met her husband to be, James W. Ward, in Germany. After being married they came to the United States and she became an American citizen. They eventually settled in DeRidder in 1969, and were one of the first families to move into the new Green Acres subdivision where they both lived until their death. As a wife and mother she raised a large family and worked at Ft. Polk for many years. She worked at the Main Post Cafeteria and as a retail cashier. Known for her honesty, generosity, hard work and limitless energy and stamina. She always grew a garden, was constantly landscaping and wasted nothing. Her handwriting was an art form and was an exceptional cook who made delicious German/Austrian-Hungarian meals. Words of comfort may be expressed to the family at www.labbymemorial.com.



Tribute Wall

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Nn Douglas posted:

sorry for your lose

August 16 at 7:00 PM



Sondra Lowe posted:

Rodney, We love you very much! You and all your family will be in our thoughts and prayers. Grandma Wooten, Aunt Wanda, Aunt Kay, & Sondra

August 16 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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