



Avis Mercedes Rankin

February 25, 1914 - March 25, 2009

"This is a day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Avis Mercedes Rankin passed away peacefully and was called home, on March 25, 2009, to be with her loving Savior and many extended family members and friends who have preceded her in death. Avis was the loving wife of 63 years to Robert Rankin, a long serving Toledo area Dentist who preceded her in death in 2003. She is the mother to daughters, Mary Dee Dryer and son-in-law, Dr. Richard Dryer; Deborah Ann Pinnock and son-in-law, Richard Pinnock; son Mike Rankin and daughter-in-law, Ruth Rankin. Avis leaves behind her loving grandchildren: Dr. Richard Dryer and his wife Dr. Rehka Modur Dryer; Geoffrey Dryer, Mary Dryer, Richard Pinnock, Jr., Michael J. Rankin and his wife Taylor Rankin and Katherine Rankin. Avis Rankin was born in Toledo, Ohio on February 25, 1914 to George and Lillian Mayer. As the middle child, she was preceded in death by her parents and brother and sisters: Phyllis Hartman (Haldon); George "John" Mayer (former owner of "Mayer's Ice Cr?me"); Vivian Glattes (Kenneth) and Virginia Ellison (Claude). A 1931 graduate of Woodward high School, Avis attended the University of Toledo and later graduated from the then Stautzenberger Business College. When she could, Avis enjoyed working in her mother and father's grocery stores that were later sold to Dick Anteau in 1938. In 1940 she married Robert Rankin who served in the WWII Pacific Theatre including Okinawa as a U.S. Navy Dental Officer. During the war, Avis supported the war effort through her full time job at the former Hetrick Tent Company in Toledo. After the war, Avis,

with her husband Bob, raised three children and were long time members of Memorial Lutheran Church in Toledo before retiring to spend full time at their home on Lake Erie. "Service above self", the Rotary motto is how Avis lived her life. In addition to being a good Mom and wife, Avis volunteered in many ways. Her service to others included teaching Sunday school at Memorial Lutheran Church for many years; Girl Scout and Cub Scout pack leader; Red Cross volunteer; American Cancer Society volunteer; Meals on Wheels volunteer delivering meals to shut ins; and, past PTA President of the former Horace Mann Grade School in Toledo. She loved to travel with her children and grandchildren. Her son Mike attributes his Mom's longevity to good genes; staying engaged in life; and, treating others with love and compassion. Family and friends are invited to visit from 10 AM, until the time of services at 12 Noon, on Monday, March 30th, in the Ansberg -West Funeral Home, 3000 Sylvania Avenue, Toledo, Ohio, (419) 472-7633. Reverend Christine Young will officiate. Interment will follow in Historic Woodlawn Cemetery. The family encourages donations, in lieu of flowers, to the donor's choice of charity. Avis is best remembered by all as a loving mother, wife, daughter, sister, neighbor and community volunteer who worked tirelessly in the service of others. Family, friends and people mattered most to Avis.

Tribute Wall

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“ *Dear Mary Dee and Family, My sister Claudia still lives in Toledo and she emailed me the obituary for your Mom this morning. I have many happy memories of your Mom and Dad and the whole family from our childhood. Thinking of you at this time and sending prayers for comfort and peace. Bev*

Beverly Steele (nee James) - bdsteele01@sbcglobal.net
bdsteele01@sbcglobal.net - February 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM