



## Ruth Eva Isenogle

January 23, 1937 - August 8, 2020

Ruth Eva (Provine) Isenogle, age 83, of Pontiac, IL (formerly of Mattoon, IL) passed away at 10:45 PM, Saturday, August 8, 2020 at Evenglow Lodge in Pontiac, IL.

There are no services scheduled at this time. Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home located at 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938 is in charge of arrangements.

Ruth was born on January 23, 1937 in Mt. Pleasant, MI to the late John Harrison and Elda Harriet (Gifford) Provine. She married Richard L. Isenogle on August 20, 1961 in Sumner, IL. He preceded her in death May 18, 1995. She is survived by one daughter, Sara "Maggie" Taylor and husband Terry of Pontiac, IL; one son, John Isenogle and wife Elizabeth of Marthasville, MO; two sisters, MaryAnn Cade, Martha Provine; one sister-in-law, Cam Provine; one grandchild, Franklin Greenman; and her beloved dog, Briton. She was preceded in death by two brothers, John Provine and Charles Provine.

Ruth was a faithful and devoted member of the First United Methodist Church in Mattoon, IL. She graduated from Sumner High School in Sumner, IL and later began a career as a telephone operator at Illinois Consolidated Telephone Company in Mattoon, IL where she retired. Ruth held many active memberships throughout her life that include: Quilting Club in Mattoon, IL; Coles County Genealogical Society, Charleston, IL; National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Pontiac Chapter, Pontiac, IL; Hooked Together Crochet Group, Pontiac, IL; Women's Reading Club of Mattoon, IL; and Boy Scout Troop 57 Committee Member.

An ambitious woman with many interests, Ruth was an avid reader of European history. Her inquisitive nature and thirst for knowledge drove her to research the Isenogle family lineage dating back to the 1700's. It also contributed to her extensive research of Abraham Lincoln. Ruth had an admiration for Abraham Lincoln. She selflessly volunteered at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, Lerna, IL for many years allowing her the opportunity to share her knowledge with all who would lend a listening ear.

Ruth was an exceptional seamstress. She enjoyed water coloring, sketching, knitting, crocheting, and gardening. She loved traveling and took numerous trips to Europe with friends during her retirement years.

Ruth was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She created many special memories that will be cherished for a lifetime.

In lieu of flowers, please send a memorial gift to Lincoln Log Cabin State Historical Site, Lerna, IL or OSF Hospice-Eastern Region, Normal, IL.

Please visit [www.mitchell-jerdan.com](http://www.mitchell-jerdan.com) or [www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome) to light a virtual candle in her honor or share a memory with the family.

# Comments

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“ Maggie and John, Ruth was such a dear friend. Maggie, I met you when she was in the hospital a few years ago, and John, we met when Ruth and I drove through Oklahoma on our way back from Arizona, also several years ago. We had been in Sedona for a painting class which is how we originally met and became friends. I moved to Wisconsin twelve years ago so didn't see her often after that but we had lunch three or four years ago. I have been somewhat concerned since I hadn't heard from her and when her Christmas card was returned today I decided to pursue it. I was afraid maybe she was ill but had no idea she had passed away. I just cannot tell you how very, very sorry I am. She was one of the sweetest people, and also interested in so many things - painting, sewing, history, travel. We had some really good times together and she will be missed. My heartfelt sorrow for you both. Carol Anderson

Carol Anderson - January 04, 2021 at 07:36 PM

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“ Our family knew Dick and Ruth thru Bert Landes teaching with Dick at Jefferson. The guys had a good relationship and always had fun as well as enjoying their teaching. I, as Bert's wife, (Judy) knew Ruth thru our fun of knitting together and visiting in our homes.

Would like to extend our sympathy to both of you, Maggie and John. You had great parents and a lot to be proud of. I know they will be missed but sure you have great memories of your times together.

Bert and Judy Landes

Judy Landes - August 15, 2020 at 12:48 PM

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“ Ruth was truly a member of our extended family. She was always one of the places I stopped at when I was in Mattoon. She was a big part of my wonderful memories of growing up in Mattoon. She was a great part of the Friday lunch bunch. Losing Ruth has now closed a chapter of my life. My thoughts and prayers are with Maggie and John. Your Mom was a wonderful woman and friend of our family.

Chris Debow - August 14, 2020 at 11:41 AM

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“ A special and fine lady. Praying for all of the family.

**Kenneth Cox** - August 14, 2020 at 10:51 AM

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“ We send our deepest condolences to Maggie and John and all of Ruth's loved ones. As you know we were blessed to share some incredible travels with Ruth. It was wonderful being with Ruth the day she discovered many of her Provine family members in a cemetery in Provonce, France. Her ongoing zest for learning was remarkable and made her an interesting and beautiful person to share time with, ALWAYS!!!

**Ruth Sparks** - August 14, 2020 at 09:11 AM

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“ Ruth was such a warm and compassionate lady. Her late husband, Dick, was my music teacher when I attended Jefferson Junior HS. I got to know Ruth later in our lives when we volunteered at Lincoln Log Cabin Historic site.

**Sue (Beasley) Meyer** - August 13, 2020 at 09:55 AM

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“ First let me say my heartfelt sympathy goes out to your whole family. Ruth and Dick were two of my dearest friends in the years I spent in Mattoon. I'll share a sweet/funny memory with you:

It was Dick's birthday week and the MJHS teachers always exchanged silly cards, so I'd bought a card for Dick and was sitting in the cafeteria before school drinking a cup of coffee and writing a message in the card. I'd just begun when Dick came through from the band room. "Hi, kid, what ya doin'?" he called out. "Writing in your birthday card." "Great!" He pulled out a chair and sat down. He dictated a few things he thought I should write. I followed directions. Then put the card in the envelope and sealed it. "Seal it with a kiss" he said with a chuckle. So I kissed the back of the envelope leaving a lipstick kiss. I wrote S.W.A.K. under it and handed him the envelope. He chuckled all the way to the teacher's lounge.

Apparently he took his card home and set it on the kitchen counter where Ruth was sure to see it. After about a week Ruth went down to the basement to his workshop and asked him, "Aren't you going to open that card in the kitchen?" "Oh, yeah, I forgot about that one. Why don't you go get it and open it." She ran up and got the card and brought it back down. She frowned at the S.W.A.K. on the back then tore it open. He face broke into a smile. "Ohhh, it's from Sharon!" They both had a good laugh about him trying to make her jealous. They were hilarious!! I loved them both so very much. She will be missed. I'll send a donation to Lincoln Log Cabin in her memory. My love to Maggie and John and all of your family. You come from an excellent gene pool!! Sharon Skaggs, art and science, MJHS.

**Sharon Skaggs** - August 12, 2020 at 02:47 PM

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“ I worked with Ruth st Consolidated for many years. I saw her one day and she commented I still have the afghan you made me 20 plus years ago. Strong lady. You'll be missed.

**Peggy Wishard** - August 11, 2020 at 08:19 PM

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“ Ruth was a gem had the privilege of working with her at Consolidated. RIP dear Ruth. Becky (Tinnea) Holly.

**becky holly** - August 11, 2020 at 08:08 PM

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“ Mrs. I was a lovely and kind lady. I talked to her several times over the last few years when I would see her at Charleston Community Band summer concerts. At some point, the band would play a tune that I had played under Mr. I's direction in junior high band and she and I would reminisce about those days. Once or twice, I found them exploring the pre-civil war cemetery next to our home outside Effingham prior to Mr. I's passing. Just two really great human beings. Sending love to you, Maggie.

**Kelly (Plotts) McDevitt** - August 11, 2020 at 08:08 PM

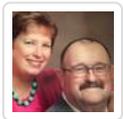
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“ My heart goes out to you. I had the privilege of being taught by a Richard and working with Ruth. They were awesome people and my life was enriched by both relationships.

**Theresa Nelson Swango** - August 11, 2020 at 07:13 PM

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“ Ruth was a lovely, soft spoken lady. She will be missed. My condolences to her family.

**Cathy Barnes** - August 11, 2020 at 07:03 PM

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“ I lived by Ruth in Mattoon and also worked with her for many years. Ruth was always so kind. RIP Ruth our prayers are with your family. Tonya Hinchee (Wilson)

**Tonya Hinchee** - August 11, 2020 at 05:08 PM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Ruth many years. She was such a dear friend and a joy to be around. My deepest sympathy to her family.

**Rebecca Wishard** - August 11, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Dick Isenogle at Jefferson and Mattoon Junior High and got to know Ruth too. Later we quilted together. She had so many interests and loved to learn--and oh that beautiful smile!

**Myrna Voudrie** - August 11, 2020 at 09:49 PM



“ Ruth and I went to Paducah during the annual quilt show and on one trip we went in the fall just to tour the town and visit the quilt museum. We had a room overlooking the Ohio River. She was great fun and such a talented quilter and knitter. Marianne Morgan

**Marianne** - August 12, 2020 at 01:08 AM



“ Condolences, Maggie & Jon; Such good memories over so many years. I jokingly called us the Lawrence County girls since we had both come from there. Ruth & Richard were first friends with my parents and we all attended the Methodist Church in Mattoon. Later, I taught Maggie in one of my Sunday School classes, Ruth and I were in the Genealogy Society together, and I was one of her housekeepers. I'm so glad we got to visit the day before she moved away. I miss her. Joyce (Cox) St. Michael

**Joyce St. Michael** - August 12, 2020 at 03:06 AM



“ Ruth was a gem She always had the sweetest smile. She will be missed by so many. Prayers for-her and the family.

**Fran Gover** - August 12, 2020 at 02:39 PM



“ Maggie and family - I'm so sorry for your loss. Your mother (and father!) were wonderful people.

**Patty (Moody) Sage** - August 13, 2020 at 10:44 AM