



Christine Potthast

February 3, 1925 - June 8, 2014

Christine Potthast, age 89 of Collinsville, IL, died Sunday, June 08, 2014, at Relais Bonne Eau in Edwardsville, IL.

She was born February 03, 1925, in Cologne, Germany the daughter of Heinrich and Katharina (nee Derikartz) Bernards.

On July 19, 1952, she married Cyril E. "Sib" Potthast who passed away on November 10, 1989.

She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. She was also a member of Ladies Auxiliary to the Highland-Pierron Fire Department; International Women's Club.

Born and reared in Cologne, Germany. She received the Citizens Purple Heart during WWII. She came to the states in January of 1952, with no knowledge of English; later naturalized in 1956. She helped her husband operate their dairy farm. She was very influential in their children's education, making sure they all received a college education. She loved to travel: Germany, Europe, US tours, Hawaii and taking cruises. She enjoyed competing and medaled in breast stroke swimming in the Senior Olympics. She was a breast cancer survivor. For some 5 years she worked at Michael's Restaurant as a waitress.

Survivors include :

Daughter - Margaret S. (special friend-James Pirtle) Poletti, Maryville, IL

Son - John W. (Kathleen) Potthast, Everett, WA

Son - David H. (Debbie) Potthast, Columbia, MO

Daughter - Cheryl S. (Earl) Fink, Floyds Knobs, IN

Grandchild - Elizabeth R. (Eric) Wolfmeier, Belleville, IL

Grandchild - Phillip R. Poletti, Saint Louis, MO

Grandchild - John R. (JoBeth) Fink, Sellersburg, IN

Grandchild - Carolyn R. (Brad) Banet, Floyds Knobs, IN

Grandchild - Christina L. Fink, Floyds Knobs, IN

Grandchild - Megan L. Potthast, Columbia, MO

Grandchild - Kimberly A. Potthast, Columbia, MO

Great Grandchild - Isabelle R. Wolfmeier, Belleville, IL

Great Grandchild - Eli Banet, Floyds Knobs, IN

Great Grandchild - Gracie Banet, Floyds Knobs, IN

Great Grandchild - Cooper Fink, Sellersburg, IN

Special Nephew - Gunter Fries

Special Nephew - John Hustava

Special Nephew - Bob Hustava

Special Niece - Mary Arand

She was preceded in death by :

Father - Heinrich Bernards

Mother - Katharina Bernards (nee Derikartz)

Husband - Cyril E. "Sib" Potthast (Died 11/10/1989)

Sister - Margaret Hustava

Brother - Christian Bernards

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, Illinois.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, June 12, 2014, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL, and from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM, on Friday, June 13, 2014, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, June 13, 2014, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Pierron, IL, with Father Scott A. Snider officiating.

Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery in Pierron, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Southern Illinois; Alzheimer's Foundation; or the American Cancer Society.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Christine Potthast Photos*



John Potthast - June 15, 2014 at 08:23 AM



“ 8 files added to the album *Christine Potthast Photos*



Cheryl - June 12, 2014 at 09:48 AM

“ Dear family of Christine (Tina) Potthast:

My name is Ferd (Ferdinand) Potthast a first cousin of Cyril (Sib) Potthast. My knowledge of Tina and Sib petty much dates to the 1950's. when our families visited much more frequently. I am the second youngest of Cyril's uncle Erwin, so my older brothers, Norbert, Ernest, Quintin and sisters, Mary Agnes and Connie knew Tina and Sib much better than I. The above brothers and sisters of mine have all died and are welcoming Tina to their card table in heaven. I doubt their are dairy farms there, because they are much more eternal work rather than eternal rest. My only remaining brother, Tony, isn't sure yet if he can make the wake or the Mass. I have to give you all my deepest regrets that I cannot be present for any of the funeral rites. My wife Joan and I have to leave early this Friday to go to Winona, Minnesota for the baptism of our first grand child, Elliot Potthast. We will be with you in are thoughts. prayers and sense of humor. Because that is how I remember, Tina. She was a very courageous and brave woman to take all the steps necessary to leave her home country and come to the U.S. Those were very difficult times for the good German people. And even though I was eleven years younger than she and she was 10 years younger than Cyril, I am completely convinced that she was the greatest blessing in Cyril's life. She is a fabulous lady and will always be nagging God and the saints to bring you all the things that are best for your futures. Be proud and cheerful for her and each other, because she had a tremendous sense of humor. The biggest reason you all seen and know so little of my wife, Joan, and I, is simply because the Potthast clan is one fertile bunch, and has grown by leaps and bounds and spread over the entire planet. We have raised our two boys, Adam and David, in O'Fallon, MO, so maybe we may some day bump into David, Debbie, Megan and Kimberly in Columbia, where we also have friends -- or Margaret in Maryville. IL or Phillip in St. Louis. We also have many friends in Belleville and may bump into Elizabeth, Eric and Isabelle in Belleville.

God bless and keep all of you, and now you have along with your gentle father, a mother as two saint putting in every good word for

*all of you with God Himself and his mother in heaven.
Cousin, Ferd Potthast*

Ferd Potthast - June 11, 2014 at 11:36 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased
for the family of Christine Potthast.*



June 11, 2014 at 11:05 AM



“ *Cheryl,*

*Patty and I send our condolences. When we lose a parent, we lose
an important part of our life. Fortunately, their memories live on and
become only sweeter with time. God bless your family during this
time, and we rejoice in the knowledge that you will be joined again.*

Harry Wiley

H T Wiley - June 10, 2014 at 06:43 PM



“ *Three things come to mind when I think of "Teenie"*

She was the only one that could get me to eat stuffed peppers. I used to think that was all they ate - we had them every time I stayed for supper. (Maybe she was hoping I would get sick of them and go home for supper!)

She always called me "Little Jule" with her German accent.....it sounded so endearing.

I remember going with Cookie (& the family) to the Hustava's in Collinsville. It was near the Dairy Queen and we would stop once in a while.

*Rest in Peace, Teenie.
Darlene Frey Menietti*

Darlene Menietti - June 10, 2014 at 02:10 PM

ML

“ *Cheryl and family,*

My heart and prayers are with you and I know she had to be a special woman to have such a wonderful family. God bless you and may HE be with you during these difficult days.

Love and prayers

Mary Frances

Mary Frances Lauter - June 10, 2014 at 11:34 AM



“ *I've not had the pleasure of meeting Christine but I can tell she has made an amazing impact on the world through her daughter, Cheryl. Cheryl is warm, smart and courageous and I would imagine we have Christine to thank for those wonderful qualities. She will be missed.*

Kyle Schlegel - June 10, 2014 at 10:46 AM