



Lillian and Chester Ryba

April 4, 1923 - March 7, 2025

Lillian A. Ryba

Age 101

April 4, 1923 - March 7, 2025

Chester Ryba

Age 96

October 23, 1923 - Feb. 28, 2020

Lillian A. Ryba, passed away Friday, March 7, 2025 at Laurel Oaks Assisted Living of South Haven.

Lillian was born April 4, 1923 in Chicago, daughter of the late Martin and Antonette Gilich.

Remembered as a loving and caring mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she also worked beside her husband in their businesses. Lillian was an active volunteer for many years at Sacred Heart Church in Bangor. She was a member of the Mystical Rose Guild and served with the St. Vincent Christian Services, among her many volunteer activities. She enjoyed gardening, cooking/baking, and loved music, especially polkas. She was instrumental in the design and building of the family home in the 1950s. Lillian was also a prolific writer of everything from letters to friends and family as well

as personal chronicles of her life - and was known for her exquisite handwriting skills.

Husband Chester Ryba passed away on February 28, 2020 at the Allegan County Medical Care Facility.

Chester was born October 23, 1923 in Chicago, son of the late Michael and Anna Ryba.

Chester served honorably during WWII in the Third Army in both North Africa and Europe as a support mechanic for critical equipment. His later multiple professions were the result of that experience and a hunger to read and learn. A skilled mechanic, engineer and inventor he never stopped making innovative machines and devices. Chester founded and owned Black River Wood Products, Lithographics Printing and New Standard Precision Metalworking. He was a highly skilled photographer, sought after locally for specialized commercial photography.

Chester was a pilot and member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and later enjoyed building and flying radio controlled aircraft as a member of local flying clubs.

Surviving are their children, Mary (Steven) Diebold, Robert (Paula) Ryba, and Sally Ryba-Navarre; grandchildren Andrea (Steve) Houseman, John (Hilary) Diebold, Stephanie Diebold, Christopher Diebold, Kiley (Jeff) Arnold, Kayti (Chad) Tilson, Ericka Ryba, Emily Ryba and great grandchildren, Maxx, Zeke, Gus, Silas, Brynn and Brody. Also surviving are extended family and descendants of Chester and Lillian's siblings.

They were preceded in death by their parents. Also departed are 2 brothers and 3 sisters of Chester and Lillian's sister.

Following their wishes cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held on April 4, 2025, 11:00 AM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with inurnment in Arlington Hill Cemetery, Bangor, at 1:30. Arrangements entrusted to the Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers the family asks donations be made to St. Vincent Christian Services of Bangor, The Al-Van Humane Society of South Haven, or Centrica Care Navigators of West Michigan.

The family wishes to recognize and thank the staff at Laurel Oaks of South Haven for the care and love they gave to Lillian and her family, Centrica Care for their professional Hospice care and support, and St. Basil's Church for the weekly visits with Lillian, especially on Ash Wednesday with the blessing of ashes and sacrament of Holy Communion.

Cemetery Details

Arlington Hill Cemetery

56845 28th Ave
Bangor, MI 49013-9764
(269) 427-5831

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church
201 S. Walnut
Bangor, MI

Inurnment

APR 4. 1:30 PM (ET)

Arlington Hill Cemetery
56845 28th Ave
Bangor, MI 49013-9764
(269) 427-5831

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Chet and Lillian were wonderful neighbors to our family for 70 years. Many family events and milestones were shared during that time. It was our privilege to know them! With love, Diane for the Till family.

Diane Heisig - March 29, 2025 at 03:47 PM

BW

“ My dad knew Chet quite well as he was good enough to rent a building to him and my grandpa for George's Tractor for years. Condolences to Mary and her family.

becky woodley - March 13, 2025 at 10:10 AM

LT

“ In 1970, I got a job at Kal-Gale Printing, in Galesburg, Mi. The man I was taking over for was Chet Ryba. He was a good friend for many years after that. My condolences to the family.

LARRY THOMAS - March 11, 2025 at 07:50 PM

PV

“ Rest in Peace with Chet & Our Dear LORD now that you have been promoted to Glory in Heaven. A Awesome Lady. So Sweet and an absolute pleasure to know and work for. She was very cool and extremely kind.Glad to have known Lillian & Chet too.

Paul Valentine - March 11, 2025 at 12:57 PM

SM

Always a pleasure to sit and chat with, I am grateful to have known them both. I will remember them fondly.They are together again.May they rest in peace.

Steven McGrath - March 11, 2025 at 03:09 PM

RW

Rest in Peace Lil, I know Chet was waiting for you. You are the Sweetest person and with Chet by your side you made an Amazing Couple. ❤️

Rosemary Weiss - March 11, 2025 at 04:25 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



D.L. Miller Funeral Home - March 10, 2025 at 01:44 PM