



## Marjorie L. Whitney

August 13, 2011

Marjorie, 91, formerly of the Valley died peacefully with her family and friends around her. She was born August 26, 1919 in Saugus, Mass., raised there, and spent her summers with her Mother's family in Boothbay Harbor, ME --- her favorite place in the world. Marjorie was an accomplished pianist and organist who graduated from Lowell State Teachers College, Lowell, MA, with a Bachelor's in Music, and devoted her life to playing beautiful music in praise of God, and to lift the spirits of the elderly and infirm. She was organist and choir director in Methodist Churches in Saugus, Melrose, Whitman MA, Boothbay Harbor, Pultneyville, Hannibal, Phelps and Jamesville, NY. She taught music in schools in MA and NY, gave piano lessons, and regularly volunteered to play piano and lead sing-alongs at local hospitals, nursing homes, and senior citizen complexes. She enjoyed playing for minstrel shows, and as part of the chorus and as a soloist for Manlius Senior Troup and Onondaga Chorus. She was a wonderful mother and role model to her children, encouraging them to sing, work hard and become involved in church and their communities. She led a gentle, kind, and Christian life filled with strong faith, a great sense of humor, and much love in her heart.

She was pre-deceased by her parents, her brother Mark Johnson, her sister Daryl, and her daughter Nancy Carroll.

Marjorie is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Merrilee and Randy

Frese, her son Bradd, her sister Lucy, 5 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandson. Private services will be held and burial next to her beloved daughter Nancy in Onondaga Valley Cemetery.

Her family will always be grateful to the aides and nurses on the 5th floor north at Van Duyn for their exceptionally fine care provided to Marjorie over the past several years.

Arrangements by B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee Street, Camillus, NY 13031.

Please sign guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)

# Tribute Wall

J(

“*Merrilee and Bradd, I was so sorry to read about the death of your mom. I will remember your mom and family when you lived in Phelps. I grew up on Banta st. My dad was the ag teacher - Elliott Johnson. My dad's family had lived in Hannibal, so my grandparents knew your mom when they lived there. Bradd, you and I played together many times with Holly Hedding!*”

Joan (Johnson) Hastings - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LS

“*Dear Merrilee, We were sad to learn of your mother's recent passing, but have reflected on the joy she brought to so many with her talent and joy. She was a very special lady and will be missed. I'll always remember how she could play selections effortlessly and with vigor. We're thankful for the musical leadership she brought to Jamesville Community Church. May God be with all of you during this time of sorrow. Thinking of you, Louise and Larry*”

Loise & Larry Stoner - August 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“*Sorry for your loss. Nana is with the Lord resting in peace. Plays her music for everyone to enjoy. May God be with you all. Jeannine*”

Jeannine Fiore - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SR

“*Merrilee, I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your mother, what a lovely person she was and I'm sure will sorely miss. My deepest condolences. Sue*”

Sue Reichel - August 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ *Merrilee, Sorry for your loss, she was a wonderful person*

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**richard haumann** - August 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *Take Your Music to Heaven and Let the Angels Sing: Welcome Home LYMTTCT, Forever*

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**Bradd Johnson Whitney** - August 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM