



Helen M. (Grootegoed) Rice

August 26, 1913 - January 30, 2014

Helen M. (Grootegoed) Rice, 100, of Mentor, and formerly of Painesville and Willoughby, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014, at Mentor Way Care and Rehabilitation Center. Born Aug. 26, 1913, in Mayfield, Mrs. Rice was a retired licensed practical nurse, working in Lake and Geauga Counties for many years. Helen was a caretaker for Judge Florence Allen, the first woman to serve on a state supreme court and one of the first two women to serve as a federal judge.

Helen was a member of Christian Life Church in Mentor. She was in the first graduating class of the nursing school in Willoughby. Survivors include her children, Richard Phillips and Nancy Rindfleisch, both of Painesville; eight grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. Helen was preceded in death by her first husband, Gilbert Phillips; second husband, Roy Rice; son, Donald Phillips; daughter, Lois Diehl; and great-granddaughter, Diana Zambory.

Funeral service will be 4 p.m. Tuesday February 4, 2014 at Christian Life Church, 8250 Garfield Road, Mentor. Inurnment will be at Knollwood Cemetery in Mayfield Heights. The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the church.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 17876 St.

Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110. Arrangements entrusted to Brunner Sanden
Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor.

Online obituary at www.brunners.com.