

Illa Weeks Searle
1922 ~ 2011



Illa Weeks Searle, beloved wife, mother, grandmother and aunt, returned home to her Heavenly Father on September 18, 2011. Illa was born June 4, 1922 in Roosevelt, UT to Jennie and Wallace Weeks, the third of eight children. Illa married her one true love, R. Leo Searle, on August 15, 1940 at the Salt Lake Temple and recently celebrated their 71st anniversary.

Illa's mother passed away while their family was still young, leaving her to raise 5 of her 7 siblings, instilling in her a strong sense of family. Illa was most proud to be a homemaker, though she held various jobs and Church callings throughout the years. Making a happy home was her true joy and nothing made her happier than to be surrounded by family. She enjoyed crafts, sewing, quilting, ceramics, writing stories and making detailed scrapbooks for her sons from birth through the most recent years. Illa was also a proud member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and Daughter of the Utah Pioneers, holding offices with both.

Illa and Leo lived various places following electrical and mining work as Leo's trade. Over the years, they raised 6 boys in Midvale, Tridell, Salt Lake, Whiterocks, Park City, Nevada and Idaho. She always made a warm, comfortable home for her family, even while living for 2 summers in a tent at 11,000 feet near Silverton, CO. Her boys were always rambunctious and rowdy, but somehow Illa kept them all in line and they were truly her pride and joy.

Illa loved to travel with Leo and their family and owned RVs and property throughout her life. Some of her favorite places to visit included Alaska,

Vancouver and Victoria Island Canada, visiting family in Washington and Wyoming, fishing at Strawberry Reservoir (with her umbrella hat), camping in Soapstone, UT and spending winters in Quartzsite, AZ.

Preceded in death by son, Marvin; her parents and sisters: Reva Richards, Gilda Ward and Lee Loveless. Illa is survived by husband, Leo; sons and families: Roy (Sheila Gleason), Kay and Peggi, Raymond and Kaycee, Stanley and Tami, Kurt and Heidi; and daughter-in-law, Fe (Marvin). She is also survived by 15 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great grandchildren; siblings, Lavour Weeks, Gene Weeks, Jennie Pinegar and Calla Rae Loveless, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express our most sincere gratitude to Drs. Arasu Gopinath and Chris Romney and the staff of Vista Care Hospice, especially Tammy Johnson, Crystal Bergstrom and Susanne Allen. Special thanks to Raymond and Kaycee.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Sept. 23, 2011, at 11 a.m. at the Midvale East 2nd Ward, 7250 South 300 East. There will be a viewing Thursday 6-8 p.m. at Goff Mortuary, 8090 So. State, and Friday 10-10:45 a.m. at the church. Interment, Larkin Sunset Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing may contribute to Salt Lake County Senior Transportation Services S1500 (P.O. Box 27637, SLC, UT 84127-9914) or Vista Care Hospice (www.ovhf.org).