



## Phillis Margaret Pontius

May 28, 1924 - January 28, 2017

The Pontius family sadly announces the passing of our beloved Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Aunt, and Sisters-in-law, Phillis M. Pontius, on January 28 2017, in Bonita Springs, Florida. Mom was born on May 28, 1924, in Brookings South Dakota to Earnest White and Corrine Petersen White. She was the youngest of three siblings, Virgil (Pete) White, Edyth Miller, Louis (Jack) White all of whom preceded her in death. At a young age Phillis moved with her family to Dubuque, Iowa, where she was schooled. Leaving Iowa for LaPorte Indiana is where she met and married Alvin H. Pontius Jr. in 1945. After WWII, in 1946, together Al and Phillis opened their first grocery store in Michigan City Indiana. What began as a neighborhood grocery store, Hoosier Foods, later became Al's Thrifty-Marts, which has now grown into Lakeshore Foods. In Michigan City, mother was a member of Eastern Star, Michigan City Service League, and Pottawattomie Country Club.

In 1970 Phillis moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, along with her youngest daughter Cathy. There Mother began her second career as co-owner of two McDonalds Restaurants in Cedar Rapids and Marion Iowa. Among Mothers other interests were traveling, which she visited India, Russia, China, and Europe, but always returned to her favorite destination Ft. Myers Beach, Florida. Phillis spent the last few years residing in Ft. Myers Beach, loving the beach sunsets and walking her beloved "Lily".

Phillis is survived by her loving children, Judith C. Pontius (Mrozinski) of Estero Florida, Lynda S. Meeker (the late Warren Meeker) of Bonita Springs, Florida, Gil R. Pontius ( wife Cindy) of Long Beach Indiana, and Cathy J. Pontius (Rex Carey) of Ft. Myers, Florida. Four Grandchildren, J.J. Mrozinski (wife Stacey) of Estero Florida, Alexis Pontius Buell ( husband Miles), of Long Beach Indiana, Maggie Fumo (husband David) of Toledo Ohio, and Katie Pontius of Chicago Illinois. Three Great Grandchildren, Morgan E. Mrozinski and Nikolos J. Mrozinski of Estero Florida and Sloane Ivy Buell of Long Beach Indiana, sisters-in-law Thelma Pataluch of LaPorte Indiana, Geneva White of Ft. Myers Florida, and several nieces and nephews.

Private graveside services will be held at a later date in Dubuque, Iowa. Words cannot describe our sorrow, our love, and respect for all that Mother gave us. She always considered her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren her greatest gifts. She is loved beyond words and will be dearly missed now and forever.

Memorial contributions, offered in Mothers honor, to a charity of your choice will be greatly appreciated. Online condolences may be offered at [www.shikanyfuneralhome.com](http://www.shikanyfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillis Margaret Pontius*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Gil my sincere condolences to you and to the family on the passing of your mother.*

*Michael Lockhart*

**Michael Lockhart** - February 11, 2017 at 12:03 PM



“ *Judy, Linda and Gil,  
So sorry I am just now hearing of your mother's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your families as you grieve the loss of your loving mom.*

*Lynn Graham Corbett*

**Lynn Corbett** - February 10, 2017 at 01:32 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies in the loss of your adorable mother, Phyllis. I am so saddened. John and I had plans to stop and visit her late February when we are coming through the Ft. Myers area. We had the sweetest Christmas card and message from her this Christmas. It is hard to believe she was taken so soon after. I felt so honored to become her friend through our mutual friend, Kathy Pearson.*

*Thinking of all of you.*

*Delores & John Tibben, Victor, Iowa*

**John & Delores Tibben** - February 05, 2017 at 04:53 PM

DW

“ *Mrs Pontius was such a nice, wonderful person. She always made you feel so welcomed in her home and she will be truly missed.*  
*Dorothy Wisted*

---

**Dorothy Wisted** - February 05, 2017 at 10:58 AM

MH

“ *Such a Great Person.I remember when They (Her & Al) open there second & Third Stores.My Dad worked for Al.My prayers For Her Family.*



---

**Mark Hattabaugh** - February 04, 2017 at 06:12 PM