



## Clara E. Cottrell

July 31, 1930 - March 7, 2017

Clara E. Cottrell, age 86 of Plymouth, passed away peacefully on March 7, 2017.

Beloved wife of 63 years to Gerard J. Cottrell. Dear mother of the late Michael, Susie (Jim "Chief") Stoklosa, Jim (Cindy) Cottrell, Tom (Linda) Cottrell, Paul (Janis) Cottrell, Judy (Rich) Perry, and daughter-in-law Becky Cottrell; Proud grandmother of 18; Great Grandmother of six; Caring sister of Patrick (Betty) Papineau, Chuck (Jackie) Papineau, Yvonne (Phil) Smith, and John (Joanne) Papineau. Clara was preceded in death by two sisters, Evelyn Smith and Rita Vethacke. She was survived by many loving relatives, cousins, nieces, nephews and dear friends. Clara was an active PTA member at Christ the King School in Detroit. Later she was a member of the Catholic Central Mother's Club. Clara was an avid card player and a Bridge Champ. Mom worked in the first year of her marriage at Keesler AFB in Biloxi, MS until her first son Mike arrived. She dedicated herself to raising six children. Clara worked at GM for 12 years. In retirement, she volunteered at a local hospital, as well as participating in her grandchildren's schools. She also traveled to Europe and China among other places with dad. The memorial visitation will be Sunday 3-9 PM with a Rosary service Sunday 7 PM, at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (Btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. The memorial visitation will be Monday 10 AM until the 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial donation in Clara's name to St. Jude

Children's Hospital; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. To share a memory of Clara, please click on the 'Share a Memory' tab on this page.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAR 12. 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

## Rosary

MAR 12. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

## Gathering of Family and Friends

MAR 13. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Kenneth Catholic Church  
14951 North Haggerty Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
vermeulenh@comcast.net

## Funeral Mass

MAR 13. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Kenneth Catholic Church  
14951 North Haggerty Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
[vermeulenh@comcast.net](mailto:vermeulenh@comcast.net)

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ I know its been a few years since Clara’s passing but I offer my condolences to the family.  
My last name is Cottrell, I live in Tecumseh MI. I was going thru a MI website for unclaimed property/money, being held by the MI treasury and came across a Clara Cottrell and this is the first one that came up. There are 3 claims in her name, each from an American General Life ins company.  
One has a “co-owner “ of Nesbit Curtis.  
If this sounds like it may be your dear loved one’s case, please contact me at 517 403-2753. Leave a return number as i dont answer unfamiliar numbers. This is not a scam i assure you. I will give you the website link and you will have to attend to it. God bless.  
🙏❤️

Darlene Cottrell - October 16, 2025 at 07:13 PM



“ Clara E. Cottrell

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM

CE

“ Our parents, Jerry and Gina, truly enjoyed their friendship with Clare and Jerry. Clare always had a smile on her face and a good story to share.  
Our positive thoughts and prayers are with your family. Chris & Mark Esper

chris Esper - March 12, 2017 at 09:39 AM

BD

“ Jerry and family, I'm so sorry to read of Clara's passing. She was a very good neighbor as were you and the children. When my family lived next door to you on Vaughan, I can recall the goings on next door. It was like a small tribe of young children having a field day ,as children do, when expelling all that youthful energy. Things would quiet down a bit when Dad's voice could be heard asking ( most likely telling) the kids to behave ! I thought it was hilarious. Those were the good days I remember so well. Now that Clara is in heaven above, you know she is still that, "MOM" ,keeping her eyes on her loved ones below. May she rest in peace,Bill and Susan Dumas

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**Bill & Susan Dumas** - March 12, 2017 at 07:59 AM

PM

“ Condolences and prayers to the Papineau Family. Many memories of your beautiful mother!  
Pat (Denomme) Meidinger.

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**Pat Meidinger** - March 12, 2017 at 06:14 AM

MS

“ My deepest condolences to the Papineau family.  
Marie (Denomme)Sawa

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**marie sawa** - March 11, 2017 at 08:04 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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March 11, 2017 at 10:02 AM

CP

“ Aunt Clara's ready smile, infectious laugh and warm hugs were always available for her nephews and nieces. She always made you feel welcome and loved. I have many fond memories of holiday dinners and time spent with her, Uncle Jerry and my cousins during Easter break from school. She was happiest when she was around family, doing everything she could to make sure everyone had a wonderful time. She is deeply missed.

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**Chuck Papineau** - March 11, 2017 at 04:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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March 10, 2017 at 09:05 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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March 09, 2017 at 06:23 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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March 09, 2017 at 04:01 PM

GC

“ George & Enza Elliott, Oakville, ON, Canada purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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**George & Enza Elliott, Oakville, ON, Canada** - March 09, 2017 at 11:24 AM

CH

“ Chemetall purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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**Chemetall** - March 08, 2017 at 04:49 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.



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March 08, 2017 at 03:36 PM

CP

“ There will never be another Clara, Truly a class act in every respect. Her skills as a Mother, Wife, Grandma, sister were indeed the very best. Never heard an unkind word, well maybe once or twice, She was given the name "commander in chief " which was very appropriate, A true gem. Will miss you. Love you Clara. Jackie and Chuck

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**Chuck Papineau** - March 08, 2017 at 02:43 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Clara E. Cottrell.*



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March 08, 2017 at 02:39 PM