

Julia F. Cardwell

1909 – 1973



Julia was, first and foremost, a teacher. She was a teacher of elementary students, all children – a teacher of laughter, a teacher of love and a teacher of human kindness. She was a watercolor artist. The birch trees in Lake Louise forests were her favorite subjects. Nature in the woods and countryside around the lake was also captured in her work. Usually her husband, Paul, took photos of her favorite scenes and Julia then painted from the photographs. She was very precise about the time of day, the light, the exact time the trillium opened or the sun rose, as she and her photographer worked together to create the best painting. She often displayed her artwork and won awards at art shows around the State. Many times she sold her work at neighboring art fairs, and donated the rewards to the camp at Lake Louise.

Julia attended Olivet College and then took her teaching degree from Western Michigan University. At her winter home in Marshall, Michigan, Julia was an active member of Trinity Episcopal Church, the Oaklawn Hospital Kitchen Guild, the Michigan Education Association and the DAR. Julia was quick to volunteer with both schools and churches, and brought her joyous personality to lighten the jobs she and her friends accomplished.

Julia married Paul Cardwell in 1968, and they built their cottage on the lake property Paul had leased in 1946. They laughed, wandered the woods looking for just the right mushrooms or pileated woodpeckers or fallen trees to photograph and paint. They were active here at the Methodist Church and camp. They played bridge and exchanged casseroles with the neighbors and genuinely loved the short time they shared together at the lake.

Julia was kind, fun, caring, giving and lovingall a Christian woman could be.