

## **Mary Josepha DeVine Rossier, 84**

Mary Josepha DeVine Rossier, 84, of Danville, Vt., and formerly of Ferrisburgh, Vt., died unexpectedly, yet peacefully on Wednesday, March 22, 2006. Mary was a loving, genuine, compassionate, selfless lady, always putting the concerns of others ahead of hers. Mary will be remembered as being devoted to her husband, family and friends. She was a friend to all she met and this world is a better place because of her. Mary was born on March 26, 1921, in Ferrisburgh, Vt., the daughter of the late Ernest and Faith DeVine. Mary attended Robinson Grade School in Ferrisburgh, Lyndon Institute, and Bryan and Stratton Business School in Boston. She married Douglas Rossier on Aug. 2, 1943, and raised four children in Ferrisburgh Center in a home adjacent to the family business of DeVines Sales and Service. Mary was a quiet and active civic leader. As a 4-H craft leader, she taught local children her many varied home crafts. She was a member of the Ferrisburgh Home Dem and the D.A.R. She served as auditor for the Town of Ferrisburgh and was an active, dedicated member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Vergennes, Vt., making flower arrangements for services and supporting special events in the church. Having learned the art of soap making as a young girl, Mary studied and perfected her skills to become a master soap maker of "Mary's Soaps." Her soap can be found at several businesses around Vermont. Mary generously shared her many talents to both adults and children, which included making soap, salves, perfume, and pot scrubbers, and teaching knitting, crocheting, tatting and refinishing and caning chairs to name a few. Many others have opened successful soap making businesses due to Mary's generous mentorship. In 1975, Mary and Doug moved to Holland, Vt., leaving the comforts of Ferrisburgh to "live off the land," relying on wind power and a wood stove for energy sources and without a telephone. During this time, Mary and Doug transitioned to a nutritional lifestyle of natural foods and supplements. Mary always shared her ever-increasing knowledge of good health out of concern for other's well-being. Mary and Doug enjoyed many years of Farmer's Market in the Northeast Kingdom, offering soaps, crafts, flowers, plants and good cheer. In 1988, they moved with the

wind mill to Danville, Vt., their current home. She leaves her husband, Douglas of Danville; her children, Susan of Vergennes, Glenn and his wife Kathy of Ferrisburgh, and Annie of West Newbury. Sadly, she was predeceased by her oldest son, Charles Rossier, on March 4, 2006, and leaves her daughter-in-law, Jean (Charlie's widow) of Ferrisburgh. She also leaves four grandchildren, Tyler, Eric and his wife Stephanie, Emily and Ryan. Mary also leaves a brother, Albert DeVine of Ferrisburgh; a sister-in-law, Esther Smith and her husband Archie of Fostoria, Mich.; many nieces and nephews, as well as many special cousins and friends. She was predeceased by her brother, Karl DeVine of Ferrisburgh. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Vergennes at 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 26, 2006. Friends may call at the Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes from 3-5 p.m. today, March 25. Donations may be made in her name to St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Vergennes or the charity of giver's choice. To celebrate her life, the family invites all of us to be more giving of ourselves in the way Mary lived her life. She was truly an angel on earth, who has now found her place with the Lord.