



## Hilda J. Gandour

Hilda J. Gandour passed away in Fortuna on April 5, 1997 at the age of 79. She chose to die at home, with her family at her side, and demonstrated courage, independence and class until the end.

Hildegarde Jane Marie Gandour was born in Sistersville, W.Va. to Thomas Isaac Gandour of Beirut, Lebanon and Sophia Midledge Gandour of St.-Cloud, France. She was a career nurse. Hilda earned her R.N. from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Parkersburg, W.Va. During World War II, she proudly served her country as a Flight Nurse, and logged thousands of hours, primarily in the Pacific

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Theatre, helping evacuate wounded soldiers from any site of the fighting where an Air-Evac plane could land. After the war, Hilda returned to school and earned her B.S. in nursing from the University of California, Berkeley. She continued her nursing career, and spent the majority of the next 30 years as a school nurse for the Sacramento City School District. She was a lifetime member of the California State Teachers Association, the University of California, Berkeley Alumni Association and the World War II Flight Nurses Association.

In 1991, she moved to Fortuna and was able to spend the last six years of her life enjoying her family and their activities. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandsons, Colin and Rex Rigney. She is also survived by her only son, Charles E. Rigney, M.D. and his wife, Kay Harden; her brother, John P. Gandour and his wife, Carmen of Boca Raton, Fla.; and numerous nieces and nephews, all of whom were very special the their "Aunt Hilda." She was preceded in death by her sisters, Virginia McGovern, and Rose Taylor; and her brother, Jackson Gandour.

Her family extends their deepest gratitude to the dedicated staff and volunteers of Hospice of Humboldt, and to the radiology department at Redwood Memorial Hospital. We are especially thankful for our concerned neighbors and friends, whose generous efforts and timely interventions helped fulfill Hilda's final wishes. At her request, no services will be held. After cremation, inurnment will be at Arlington National Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Goble's Chapel, Fortuna.