

Yaroch, Audrey

Audrey Lorraine Yaroch, 84, of Fowlerville, passed away Monday, Jan. 22, 2001 at Sparrow-Diamondale Center in Diamondale. Mrs. Yaroch was born March 12, 1916, in Chicago. She was the daughter of the late Archie Lawrence and Frieda (Linn) Vallaly. Audrey met her husband, Ernest N. Yaroch, a native of Port Austin, on a blind date, while Ernie was stationed at the U.S. Coast Guard Ninth District Office in Chicago. Following a romantic courtship, Audrey and Ernie were married Aug. 8, 1942, at St. Henry's Catholic Church. Shortly thereafter, First Class Petty Officer Ernie Yaroch was assigned to the Pacific Theater of Operations during the later stages of World War II. During this period (1944), Audrey gave birth to a daughter, Kathleen Ann Yaroch. A son, Gregory Yaroch, was born in 1947. As husband Ernie continued with his career in the U.S. Coast Guard, their third child, Jean Esther was born, while in California. While in California, Audrey became very active in assisting Catholic issues in religious education programs and continued in this volunteer effort, as Ernie's Coast Guard career took his family to Falls Church, Virginia. Ernie retired from the Coast Guard after 30 years as a Chief Warrant Officer, they moved to Fowlerville in 1971. Following Ernie's death on Nov. 15, 1976, Audrey became increasingly involved in animal rescue efforts in conjunction with daughter Kathie's interests in the 'CHIN' breed of dogs. Audrey was actively involved in the Japanese Chin Rescue Effort, and in 1994 was recognized as the 'Rescue Person of the Year', at the National Chin Specialty Show in Fort Meyers, Fla. Audrey is survived by two daughters, Kathleen A. Morgan of Fowlerville, and Jean Opland of Howell; one son, Commander Gregory N. Yaroch, USCG, retired, and his wife Regina of Sandwich, Maine; seven grandchildren, Alyssa Yaroch, Brienne Yaroch, Donald 'Skip' Morgan, Kelly Lichlyter, Jason Morgan, Rachel Opland and Kyle Opland; and several nieces and nephews. Mrs. Yaroch was preceded in death by her husband Ernest, and a brother, Linn Vallaly. Mass of Christian burial will take place at 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, 2001, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Port Austin. Father Mietek, pastor of St. Edwards/St. Mary's Catholic Church will officiate. Burial will take place in St. Michael's Cemetery. A Wake Scripture Service will take place at 8 p.m. Thursday by Father Mietek at the MacAlpine Funeral Home in Bad Axe. Visitation will be from 4 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25 at the funeral home and from 10 a.m. until the time of the mass Friday at St. Michael's Church in Port Austin. Memorials may be offered to St. Michael's Catholic Church or the charity of the donor's choice.