

Champagne, Irene

Irene Elizabeth Champagne, 70, of Saginaw died Tuesday afternoon, May 23, 2000, at her home after a short battle with cancer. She was born Feb. 5, 1930, in Chandler Township at the home of her parents, the late George and Laura (Seigwart) Shaw. She was a 1947 graduate of Elkton High School. On Sept. 9, 1950, she was united in marriage to Robert Champagne at St. Felix Catholic Church in Pinnebog. They lived in Elkton until 1960, when they moved to Saginaw. Irene was a homemaker all her life and was a devoted mother and wife. She loved planting flowers and working in her garden and especially loved playing games with her grandchildren. She was a Nana for a special family in Saginaw for the past 17 years. Irene also was an avid card player and NBA fan. She was a member of St. Stephen Catholic Church of Saginaw. Surviving are her husband, Robert; five sons, Mark Champagne and his wife, Linda, of Davis, Calif., Brad Champagne and his wife, Sue, of Bay City, Gary Champagne of Billerica, Mass., Jack Champagne and his wife, Susan, of Redford, and Troy Champagne of Midland; 11 grandchildren, Craig, Kevin, Cory, Kelly, Ashley, Matthew, Robert, Brian, Kathryn, David and Megan; two sisters, Marge McPhee and her husband, George, of Kinde, and Shirley Murray and her husband, Sam, of Bad Axe; and one brother, George Shaw and his wife, Rita, of Elkton. A funeral Mass will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 27, 2000, at St. Felix Catholic Church, Pinnebog. The Rev. Fr. Dennis Kucharczyk will officiate with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation will be 2 to 9 p.m. Friday at Champagne Funeral Chapel in Elkton and after 10 a.m. Saturday at the church. Memorials may be made to the Visiting Nurses Association Partners in Caring Hospice of Saginaw.