

Barr, Muriel G.

Muriel G. Barr, 81, of Empire, went home to her Lord and Savior on Saturday, August 12, 2006. She was born November 15, 1924 in East Jordan to Tony V. and Grace Galmore, the fourth of seven children. On July 6, 1943, she married Martin Kadrovich. He died at Anzio Beach, less than one year later, on March 24, 1944. Prior to military service, Martin was studying to be a minister. He wanted Muriel to prepare for being a minister's wife by attending Moody Bible College, but she followed her instincts and chose instead to attend Central Michigan University. While there, she studied education and enjoyed participating as a member of the synchronized swim team. She also met her second husband, James Robert Barr. They were married March 27, 1948. He preceded her in death on September 13, 1985. Muriel enjoyed life to the fullest. She stayed active traveling to the Glen Arbor Athletic Club to workout three days a week, to quilting and rug hooking groups, working in her flower gardens, hosting gatherings and baking cookies for her beloved Empire Methodist Church friends in her last hours. She was known for her extravagant displays of cookies and finger sandwiches at Christmas. She also made beautiful handmade gifts for family and friends throughout her life. Flowers from her garden often adorned the alter at church on Sundays. She was known to all as a very charitable woman and will be remembered by many different names, Mom, Miki, Grandma, Aunt, Giver, Angel, student and most notably, Teacher. She would pursue new ideas and activities with great enthusiasm. She always worked for perfection, and would encourage others to give their best efforts. She was a Girl Scout and Boy Scout leader when her children were young. In her 70s, she again worked to pass on her love of fiber arts to children in her 4-H group. She simply had to teach any and all who wanted to learn. She was an active member of many community groups, United Methodist Women, The Victorian Quilter Guild in Manistee, The Empire Fire Hall Quilters and the West Shore Rug Hookers. Shortly after retiring, she earned a certification as a National Quilting Instructor. She enjoyed each of these groups, but was not satisfied with her involvement until she served as president in many of them. Seven children survive Muriel, Tim (Bonnie) Barr, Jennifer (Kevin) Kelly, Sam (Julie) Barr, Sean (Janice) Barr, all of Empire, Terry (Jane) Barr, of Jacksonville, Lori Barr of Surprise, Ariz. and Dirk Barr of Denver; two siblings, Elaine Saxton and Alice Galmore live in Howell; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, friends, and her church family at Empire Methodist Church also survive her. Four of her siblings also preceded her in death, Ruth Overmyer, Jean Kutsche, Martha Wilson and their only brother, Thomas Galmore, who died just two weeks ago. Muriel's wishes were that she be cremated. A memorial service of joyous music and memories will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2006, at the Empire Methodist Church, 10050 Michigan Street. Memorials may be made to the Heifer Project. Checks can be made out to the Empire United Methodist Church P.O. Box 261, Empire, Michigan 49630. The family is being served by the Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Kindly share your memories on the family's online guest book at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.