

**Schmidt, Martha M.**

Martha M. Schmidt, 76, of Sebewaing died Monday, July 6, 2009 at Bay Regional Medical Center in Bay City following a lengthy illness.

She was born July 5, 1933 in Caro, daughter of the late Charles E. and Adelaide (O'Brien) Dowling.

She was united in marriage to Paul W. Schmidt on June 22, 1957 in Caro. He preceded her in death Feb. 8, 1984.

Martha had been a home economics teacher at the Unionville-Sebewaing Area High School for 32 years before retiring in 1993.

She was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Sebewaing. She also was a member of several book clubs, was an avid reader, enjoyed all types of painting and sewing and loved going to the theater.

Surviving are two sons, two daughters and spouses, Carl Schmidt of Traverse City; Joseph (April) Schmidt of Unionville; Catherine (Gerald) Ilaria of East Brunswick, N.J.; Mary (Bill) Bertagnoli of Gaylord; seven grandchildren; two sisters, JoAnn (Keith) Sturm of Pigeon, Ann Dowling and her husband, Ed Noble, of San Jose, Calif.; four brothers, Bill (Kay) Dowling of Grand Ledge; Charles (Shirley) Dowling of Escanaba; Paul (Lucy) Dowling of Malone, Wis.; Tom (Debbie) Dowling of DeWitt; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Stephanie Schmidt; and a daughter-in-law, Debbie Schmidt.

The Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, July 10, 2009 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Sebewaing. Fr. John Weis will officiate.

Visitation will be from 4 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the Dinkel-Juengel Funeral Home in Sebewaing.

She will lie in state at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of service Friday.

Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Sebewaing Twp. Library, American Cancer Society or the charity of the donor's choice.