

### **Bursick, Mary I.**

Mary I. Bursick, 100, died Thursday morning, April 13, 2006, at Huron Medical Center. She was born January 18, 1906 in Youngstown, Ohio to the late Ande and Mary (Tartarka) Barabas. Mary spent her early childhood in Youngstown where her father worked in the steel mills. In her late teens, the Barabas family moved to the Owendale area. Mary began working for \$3 a week at the George Neinstedt Hotel (now the Hitching Post) in Elkton at age 13, when her father became ill and subsequently died in 1923 making her the sole support of the family. The family moved to Pigeon where Mary met Adam Harry Bursick, whom she married on November 24, 1927 at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church. During the 1930s, Mary managed the Sol Schlucter grocery store before moving to a farm in Oliver Township in 1938. She subsequently worked in Pigeon for Joe Maust's Supermarket, the Niebel Brothers Grocery Store, the Gamble Store, and finally the Reimann Snyder Furniture Store, Pigeon. She retired from the furniture store about 1976 after working there for nearly 15 years. Mary lived on the farm in Elkton after retirement until 1991 when she moved to Imlay City while recovering from hip surgery to be nearer her daughter's family. In 2003, at age 97, Mary moved to Country Gardens in Pigeon, and then last year to Courtney Manor in Bad Axe. During her retirement years, Mary enjoyed traveling to the Canadian Rockies, and to Montreal, and she especially enjoyed her four grandchildren who spent many summer days with her on the farm. She was a lifetime member and the oldest member of St. Francis Borgia Parish and the Altar Society. Surviving are her daughter, Dolores (Jim) Walker, of Imlay City; four grandchildren, James (Caren) Walker, of West LaFayette, Indiana, Peggy (Pete) Ondersma, of Capac, Ann (Bruce) Downey, of Capac, and Paul (Beth) Walker, of Imlay City; six great-grandchildren, James, Michael, Mark, Cristen, Logan and Savannah; two sisters, Helen Schledjeski and Margaret (Bill) Buchholz, of Rochester Hills; her sister-in-law, Myrna Barabas, of Vassar; and several nieces and nephews. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church, Pigeon, with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation will be after 10 a.m. on Tuesday at the church, where a Rosary will begin at 10:30 a.m. Memorials may be directed to the church. Those unable to attend may sign the guest book at [www.champagnefuneralchapel.com](http://www.champagnefuneralchapel.com).