

Messing, Bertha M.

Bertha Mary Messing, 83, of Minden City, went home to the Lord on Thursday, April 29, 2004, at Harbor Beach Community Hospital Long Term Care unit where she has resided for the last seven and a half years. Bertha was born November 10, 1920 in Huron County to the late Philip and Katherine (Stelmack) Gatza of Uby. Bertha married Raymond Messing on June 3, 1941 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Parisville. They were married for nearly 63 years. Bertha resided with her husband on their farm in Minden City for 56 years. She loved all her family, gardening, baking, flowers, dancing, playing cards, and tapping her foot to the wonderful music her family played. Bertha attended St. Mary's Catholic school and the McMillan country school until the eighth grade. She worked at the Bad Axe bean plant and as a waitress in Port Huron. Bertha attended St. John's Chrysostom Catholic Church of Forestville where she was an altar society member. She attended the Knights of Columbus social nights with her husband and belonged to card clubs. Bertha is survived by her husband, Raymond; and 11 children, John and his wife, Peggy "Evelyn", of Harbor Beach, Judy Booms and her husband, Angus, of Harbor Beach, George and his wife, Linda, of Akron, Donna Emming and her husband, Leo, of Ruth, Marie Gay, of Hopewell, Virginia, Florence Wolschleger and her husband, Richard, of Ruth, Alvin, of Minden City, Darlene Ornelas and her husband, Florenzio, of Beaverton, Betty Jane Frost and her husband, Randy, Sr., of Plover, Wisconsin, Bernard and his wife, Pauline, of Minden City, and Ivan and his wife, Lori, of Minden City; 34 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; 12 step-grandchildren; one sister, Jean Hollis, of New Baltimore; one brother, Gerald Gatza, of New Baltimore; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two grandchildren, Matthew Emming and Julie Ann Gay; one step-grandson, Ruben Ornelas; one daughter-in-law, Connie (Peyerk) Messing; one son-in-law, William Ben Gay; two sisters, Suzanne Urban and Rose Mazure; three brothers, Ernest, Martin, and Cass Gatza; one sister-in-law, Helen Gatza; three brothers-in-law, Steve Urban, Henry Mazure, and Richard Hollis. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 3, 2004, in Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Ruth, with Fr. Steve Gavit and Fr. Paul Bala officiating. Burial will be at St. John's Cemetery in Forestville. Visitation will be from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, with rosary service at 7:30 p.m.; from 1 to 9 p.m. on Sunday with scripture service at 3 p.m. and from 9 to 10 a.m. on Monday at Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Uby. Memorials may be made to the Family Discretionary Fund.