

## **Cieslinski, Anthony**

Anthony "Tony" J. Cieslinski, 84, of Ubly, passed away Saturday, November 22, 2003, at the home of his daughter, Mary Vandemark, in Marquette under hospice care. Tony was born to the late Joseph and Janina (Dembski) Cieslinski on November 10, 1919 in Cleveland, Ohio, where he lived for the first year of his life before moving to Ubly. He married the love of his life, Marcella Pauline Sofka, on October 25, 1941, at St. Columbkille Catholic Church of Ubly. In his youth, Tony was a Golden Glove Boxer. Due to the depression, Tony left school to work the family farm. In 1974, the Ubly Board of Education bestowed upon Tony an honorary Diploma of Graduation. He served on the Ubly School Board as past treasurer for 12 years. Tony and Marcella moved to their farm in Peck in 1942, before returning to Ubly in 1956, where he continued to farm until 1995. Since Tony was a life long dairy and crop farmer, he was a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, the Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative and the Farm Bureau. He served for ten years as a member of the Michigan Milk Producers Board, and was a past president of the Michigan Farm Association. Tony also received several awards for Michigan Milk Production of over 20,000 pounds per average. He was a life long member of both St. John the Evangelist Church and its choir. He was a fourth degree member of the Ubly/Sheridan Knights of Columbus and a member of the original Alabama Jubilee Productions in Ubly. Tony and Marcy enjoyed traveling, spending winters in Florida, visiting with family and friends and he always enjoyed a good game of cards. Tony is survived by his wife of 62 years, Marcella, of Ubly; his children, Michael A. Cieslinski and his wife, Melinda, of L'Anse, John P. Cieslinski and his wife, Glenda, of Ubly, Mary E. Vandemark and her husband, Terry, of Marquette; seven grandchildren, Gary (Marie Hasselman) Cieslinski, Michael A. (Lori) Cieslinski III, Amy L. (Tim Lightfoot) Cieslinski, Joseph P. (Jennifer Roberts) Cieslinski, Kit (Steve) Lipe, Ty (Jason) Witting, Zackery (Kirsten Bolton) Vandemark; seven great-grandchildren, Chantel, Matthew, and Cheyanne Cieslinski, Nikki and Errin Ewald, Codi Lipe, and Alexysis Witting. Tony was preceded in death by an infant son, Joseph; two infant sisters; and one brother, John Cieslinski. Funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2003, at St. John Catholic Church of Ubly. The Rev. T.J. Fleming, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 6 to 9:30 p.m. today, 1:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday and from 8 to 9 a.m. on Wednesday at the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubly. There will be a joint rosary by the Knights of Columbus and Daughters of Isabella at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday evening at the funeral home.