

Smithers, Thomas E.

Mr. Thomas E. Smithers, 70, of Ubly, passed away Sunday, October 23, 2005, surrounded by his loving family at his residence under hospice care. He was born May 2, 1935 in Colfax Township to the late John Willis and Mary (Knoll) Smithers. He married Jean F. Schramke on August 11, 1956 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Ubly. Tom attended the Ubly schools and had continuous training in the field of mechanics. Before marriage, he served in the Merchant Marines, sailing the Great Lakes. He worked as a mechanic for most of his life. His last 20 years of employment were with the Huron County Road Commission. Disabled in 1991, he adjusted to life as a professional grandpa to his grandchildren, who were the joy of his life. He was a lifelong member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church of Ubly. He treasured over 40 years with special friends, playing euchre in their card club. He loved to visit the casinos and travel throughout northern Michigan. Tom is survived by his wife of 49 years, Jean F. Smithers, of Ubly; his children, Pamela J. Maurer and her husband, Randy, of Ubly, James T. Smithers, of Bad Axe, Gerald W. Smithers and his wife, Arlene, of Bad Axe, Michael A. Smithers and his significant other, Anna Braun, of Ubly, Lisa M. Lemke and her husband, Jeffery, of Ubly; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother, John W. Smithers and his wife, Marilyn, of Elkton; many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two brothers, J. Willis (infant) and Howard J. Smithers. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 26, 2005, at St. John Catholic Church in Ubly. The Rev. Joseph Griffin, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubly, and from 10 to 11 a.m. on Wednesday at the church only. There will be a parish vigil service at 7:30 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are requested to United Hospice.