

Ballagh, Mildred G.

Mildred G. Ballagh, 88, of Gotts Corner near Caseville, died Monday evening, November 14, 2005, with family by her side, at Three Rivers Area Hospital in Three Rivers. She was born August 20, 1917 at the home of her parents, the late Joseph and Rosalia (Witherspoon) McBride near Caseville. She attended the Rock City School and graduated at age 15. On May 20, 1939, she was united in marriage to William J. Ballagh at the Kinde Presbyterian Manse. Bill preceded her in death February 1, 1998, after celebrating 58 years together. Mildred was a very active woman, raising a family, helping her husband on the farm, and worked at Michigan Sugar for a time. She was well known as a correspondent and writer for the Elkton Advance, Pigeon Progress, and the Huron Daily Tribune for more than 50 years. She was a member of the Chandler Presbyterian Church, serving as treasurer, elder, Sunday school teacher, and Women's Guild. While in Three Rivers the past six years, she attended the Three Rivers Church of the Nazarene. She also was a member of the Rush Lake Farm Bureau, coordinator of many Rock City School reunions, loved her family, flower gardening, cooking, and was known as the family historian. Surviving are four children, Marilyn (Gary) Gascho, of Chula, Georgia., William (Janet) Ballagh, of New Lothrop, Sally (Tony) Lopez, of Holt, and Mary (Fred) Grunert, of Three Rivers; and nine grandchildren, John Gascho, Laura Provost, Bill Ballagh, Lisa Clothier, Andy Ballagh, Sonya Ridge, Chris Lopez, Dana Nichols, and Fred Grunert. Also surviving are 13 great-grandchildren, John Joseph Gascho, Andrew and Katie Grace Provost, Amanda, Bill, Daniel and Joseph Ballagh, Kelli, Katie and Cole Clothier, Ava Ballagh, and Kiah Nichols and Allison Grunert; her brother, Robert (Irene) McBride, of Standish; and two sisters-in-law, Frances McBride, of Caseville, and Eva Ballagh, of Bad Axe. Preceding her in death were three brothers, William, Kenneth, and infant, Forest McBride; and two sisters, Marguerite Rodgers and Clara Laming. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2005, at the Chandler Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Robert Anderson, pastor of Three Rivers Church of the Nazarene, will officiate with burial next to her husband in Colfax Township Cemetery. Friends may call at the Champagne Funeral Chapel in Elkton from 2 to 9 p.m. on Friday, and at the church after 10 a.m. on Saturday. Memorials may be given to the Chandler Presbyterian Church or the Three Rivers Church of the Nazarene. Those unable to attend may sign the guest book at www.cfcElkton.com.