Mabel M. Gillingham 1902 – 1998

Mabel Marie Gillingham, age 96 of Caseville, passed away Wednesday, December 30 at the Huron Medical Care Facility, Bad Axe, following a long illness.

She was born in Leroy on August 29, 1902, the daughter of the late George and Ida (Putnam) Davidson. She was a graduate of Saginaw High School and Kalamazoo Business College. On February 16, 1924 she married Robert L. Gillingham in Ann Arbor. He preceded her in death on January 3, 1988.

Together, Mr. and Mrs. Gillingham helped pioneer Caseville into a resort town. During their 67 years as residents, they owned and operated the North Island Fish Company, the R.L. Gillingham Real Estate Company and the Scenic Gift Shop. Mrs. Gillingham was a charter member of the Scenic Golf Course and a past member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary, Caseville. She was a long-standing member of the Caseville United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday School and was a member of the Ladies Aid.

Surviving her are a son, Robert S. Gillingham and his wife, Bertha, of Carlsbad, California; two daughters, Nancy E. Gremel and her husband Victor, of Sebewaing and Wanda L. Quinn of Bloomfield Hills; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; a sister, Bertha Johnston of Kalamazoo; a sister-in-law, Hazel Davidson of San Diego, California; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by four sisters, Lern and Gladys Davidson, Lila Humphries, and Lulu Steiner and three brothers, Joe, Merton, and Jay Davidson.

Funeral Services will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 2 from the Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon, with Rev. Barbara L. Franks, pastor of Bay Port United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in the New Bay Port Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Huron Medical Care Facility or to the charity of the donor's choice.