

Shepherd, John

John "Walt" Shepherd, 86, of Bad Axe, passed away Tuesday, September 5, 2006, at the Huron Medical Care Facility in Bad Axe. He was born November 4, 1919 in Huron Township, son of the late William and Helen (McNeil) Shepherd. He married Clara J. Moran on August 28, 1943 in Bloomfield Township. He was a graduate of Kinde High School. He worked for a short time during World War II for General Motors in Saginaw, and at Dunn Paper Company, of Port Huron, for five years. He returned to Huron County in 1951 to work at Frankenmuth Tool & Engineering, where he became a journeyman of skilled trades. This plant closed and he became one of the original owners of Huron Tool & Engineering of Bad Axe. Since 1989, he has been spending his winters in his home in Sarasota, Florida. He was an avid fisherman in both Michigan and Florida. He also enjoyed hunting, canoeing, square dancing and skiing. He had been a member of the "Thumb Bums" camping club since its origin over 30 years ago, as well as a member of the Oakwood Manor Shuffleboard Club. He has been an active member of the United Methodist Church in Bad Axe, where he has held several offices. His avocation was farming, which he had continued to be involved in throughout his life. Survived are his wife, Clara, of Bad Axe; one son, Thomas (Patricia) Shepherd, of Port Austin; two sisters, Marion (Phil) Thomas, of Port Huron, Eleanor (Kenneth) Pawlitz, of Sterling Heights; one grandson, Christopher (Jennifer) Talaski, of Yale; two great granddaughters, Laney and Renee Talaski, of Yale; and many nieces and nephews. Services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 8, 2006, at the Bad Axe United Methodist Church. Interment will be in Colfax Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. on Thursday at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe. There will be no visitation prior to the service time on Friday at the church.