

Beaver, Norman

Norman F. Beaver, 79, of Kalamazoo, passed away Tuesday, October 7, 2003, in Kalamazoo. Norman was born on February 14, 1924 in Lincoln Park, the son of George M. and Doris M. (Bentley) Beaver and he had been a resident of Kalamazoo for 30 years. During his working years, he was a bus driver for Indian Trails Bus Line, a truck driver for Brody Miller Freight Line, operated Beaver's Xpressway Inn, and then was associated with the Spring Creek Campsite as the owner-manager, retiring in 1985. During World War II and the Korean Conflict, he served two separate tours of duty with the United States Marines. On August 26, 1966, Norman was united in marriage to the former Barbara Jean Ballett, who preceded him in death on October 5, 1999. He is survived by his children, Richard Beaver and his wife, Kathy, of Ubly, Martha Arnott, of Mattawan, Georgiana Beaver, of Elkton, Kathleen Kowalski and her husband, Chris, of Lewisburg, Tennessee, Norma Jean Beaver, of Lawton, Jo Ann Alexander and her husband, Faron, of Cass City, Dean Beaver, of Temperance; 13 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; four brothers, Marvin Beaver, of Bad Axe, Loren Beaver and his wife, Pat, of Caseville, Kenneth Beaver and his wife, Que, of Wayne, Gerald Beaver and his wife, Kay, of Northville; sister, Mary Wencel and her husband, Gary, of Ypsilanti; step-daughter, Judy Purdy, of Exeter, California; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two sons, Robert Michael Beaver, on July 14, 1994 and Timothy Joel Beaver, on June 10, 2003; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and sister, Florence Lawrence. Funeral services will be conducted at 10 a.m. on Friday, October 10, 2003, in the Langeland Family Funeral Home, Memorial Chapel, 622 S. Burdick St., with Pastor Bill Napp officiating. Norman will be buried at Ft. Custer National Cemetery with full military honors. Visitation will be from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. The family requests that memorials be made to American Cancer Society or the Hospice of Greater Kalamazoo in lieu of flowers.