

**Geiger, Ortha M.**

Ortha Mae Melick Geiger, 100, of Pigeon, died Tuesday morning, May 6, 2008 at Scheurer Hospital Long Term Care in Pigeon, where she was under hospice care.

Ortha was born in Zurich, Ontario, Canada to Alfred and Lavina (Ort) Melick on Sept. 23, 1907. She came to Huron County with her family as a child.

She was married in Elkton on July 4, 1926 to Edward Geiger.

The Geiger's raised nine children at their farm two miles south of Pigeon. After selling their farm in 1972, they moved to Caseville and spent winters in Florida. They returned to Pigeon where Mrs. Geiger has resided since. Ed and Ortha celebrated over 71 years of married life before Ed's death in 1997.

Mrs. Geiger was a member of Salem United Methodist Church in Pigeon. She had a lovely singing voice and enjoyed singing in choir and in church. In her later years she enjoyed having visitors and was especially proud of her family, many of whom came to Michigan in August of 2007 to celebrate her 100th birthday at the family farm south of Pigeon.

Surviving are nine children, Pauline Eichler of Pigeon, Ronald (Shirley) of Cass City, Kenneth (Dorothy) of Nashville, Jannette Hoepner of Valrico, Fla., Ross (Nancy) of Deland, Fla., Shirley Greenleaf of Fort Gratiot, Beverly (Richard) McCarty of Anthem, Ariz., Keith (Janet) of Warrenton, Va., and Paul (Carol) of Jackson; 34 grandchildren, 69 great-grandchildren; 23 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ed; infant brothers, Harold and Earl; brothers, Clarence and Gladwin; and sisters, Lila and Gladys; and three grandchildren.

A service celebrating her life will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 10 at Salem United Methodist Church in Pigeon, where Ortha had been a member for more than 80 years. Rev. Michael Sawicki will officiate. Burial will be in Grand Lawn Cemetery, Pigeon.

Visitation will be at 2 p.m. on Friday for the family and from 3 to 8 p.m. on Friday for the public at Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home and on from 10 a.m. until the time of the funeral on Saturday at the church.

Memorials may be offered to Salem United Methodist Church or Home and Hospice Advantage.