

Rees, Willard

Willard Joseph Rees, 70, resident of Bad Axe, died Wednesday morning, August 13, 2003, at Huron Medical Center in Bad Axe. He was born March 21, 1933 in Harbor Beach to the late Milton and Agnes (Whipping) Rees. Willard and Suzanne Gentner were united in marriage on October 5, 1957. Willard was a U.S. Army Veteran and served two years mostly in Germany. Mr. Rees was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bad Axe where he also was a volunteer. He graduated from Our Lady of Lake Huron High School in Harbor Beach and worked for Chrysler for more than 30 years. Willard was a master gardener. He loved the outdoors, and enjoyed NASCAR. Willard is survived by his wife, Suzanne; six sons, Bruce Rees and his wife, Marcelle, of Imlay City, Robert Rees, of Bad Axe, Mark Rees, of Bad Axe, John Rees and his wife, Susan, of West Bloomfield, Matthew Rees, of Bad Axe, Michael Rees, of Bad Axe; two daughters, Karen Volmering and her husband, Gary, of Ruth, Linda Champagne and her husband, Russell, of Harrisville; one brother, Douglas Rees and his wife, Donna, of Harbor Beach; three sisters, Renattah Brenner and her husband, Richard "Mike", of Novi, Nancy Sobczak and her husband, Joseph, of Linden, Betsy Lemanski and her husband, Daniel, of Harbor Beach; 12 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 16, 2003, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bad Axe. Fr. James Carlson will officiate. Burial will follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. A prayer service, led by Jan Rapson, will be offered at 7 p.m. tonight at the MacAlpine Funeral Home in Bad Axe. Visitation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home and from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturday at the church. Memorials may be offered to Sacred Heart Food Pantry.