

**Kucharczyk, Bertha F.**

Mrs. Bertha F. Kucharczyk "Cook", 97, of Marlette, and formerly of Parisville, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009 at the Marlette Extended Care Facility.

She was born June 8, 1912 in Parisville to the late Frederick and Caroline (Mazure) Klama. She married Sylvester Salowitz June 5, 1937 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Parisville. He preceded her in death March 16, 1954. She then married Ernest Kucharczyk May 5, 1962, at St. John Catholic Church in Ubly. He preceded her in death March 7, 1987.

Bertha was an eighth-grade graduate of St. Mary Catholic Elementary School. She moved to the Detroit area in 1938. She worked for Packard Motor Car Company and Mechanical Handling Systems until she moved back to Parisville in 1947. She worked at General Cable in Cass City for a few years, and Al's Restaurant in Harbor Beach for 10 years. She was a lifelong parishioner of St. Mary Catholic Church in Parisville, where she was also a lifelong member of the Rosary Sodality. Bertha was a member of the Bad Axe and Parisville Senior Citizens. She enjoyed gardening, quilting, baking, dancing, needle work, dogs and teddy bears, and playing the harmonica, concertina and accordion.

Bertha is survived by four daughters, Irene Schmidt and her husband, James, of Ubly, Beatrice Martinez of Milan, Susie Wiesner and her special friend, Eugene Booms, of Harbor Beach, Marlene Kolomak and her husband, Elliot "Butch" of Marlette; step-daughter, Marlene Kucharczyk of Mayville; nine grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Phyllis Salowitz of Warren.

She was preceded in death by two children, Leonard Salowitz and Lorraine Kucharczyk; four grandchildren; her siblings, Agnes Pfaff, Joseph Klama, Josephine Slavick, Gertrude Guza, Martha Glaza, Peter, Aloisy and Frank Klama.

Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Parisville. The Rev. Stanley Surman and the Rev. Donald Eppenbrock will officiate. Burial will be in the St. John Catholic Cemetery in Ubly.

Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Friday at Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubly and from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the church. There will be a rosary at 3 p.m. Friday by the St. Mary Rosary Sodality and a parish vigil service at 7 p.m. Both services will be at the funeral home.

Memorials are requested to the Marlette Extended Care or the donor's choice.