

Cleland, Gordon A.

Gordon A. Cleland, 88, of Minden City, passed away Sunday, April 24, 2005, at the Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. He was born on June 4, 1916 in Detroit to the late Roy and Alta (Marriott) Cleland. He married Lillian Schock on January 7, 1939 at St. Gregory's in Grosse Pointe. Gordon was a resident of Minden City for 54 years. He was a parishioner at St. John Chrysostom Catholic Church in Forestville. He was a volunteer firefighter for Delaware Township. He liked to winter in Melbourne Beach, Florida, walk on the beach and watch the dolphins. He loved to go boating and fishing with his wife, Lillian, on Lake Huron. He enjoyed playing euchre, gardening, tinkering in the garage, and relaxing under his maple tree. Gordon is survived by his wife, Lillian, of Minden City; five children, Carol Marie Rogers and her husband, Curt, of Melbourne Beach, Florida, Robert J. Cleland and his wife, Karen, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Larry J. Cleland and his wife, Marilyn, of Pinckney, Pamela Pence and her husband, Kevin, of Romulus, and Ronald R. Cleland and his wife, Tammy, of Saline; 13 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; three sisters, Jean Tanton, of Harbor Beach, Ruth Tanton and her husband, Max, of Deckerville, and Elaine Poole and her husband, Edward, of Paw Paw; and one brother-in-law, Al Thompson, of Plymouth. He was preceded in death by an infant son, Richard Gordon Cleland; one sister, Doris Thompson; one brother-in-law, Leigh Tanton. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2005, at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Ruth. The Rev. Paul Bala, pastor of St. John Chrysostom Church in Forestville, will preside. Cremation will follow at Sunset Valley Cremation in Bay City. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday and from 9 to 10 a.m. on Thursday at the Smigielski Funeral Home on Cass Avenue in Minden City. There will be a parish vigil service at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are requested to the American Heart Association or the donor's choice.