



Lillian N. Koehler, age 84 of Pigeon, passed away Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at Scheurer Hospital with her family by her side.

Lillian was born at home in Verona Township on April 6, 1932. She was the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Semeneuk) Hnatiuk of Cass City. She attended elementary school in Elkton and then graduated from Cass City High School in 1950. She met her "forever love" Richard Koehler while at the Bad Axe Roller Rink sometime in 1949 and they were united in marriage on December 29, 1951 at Cross Lutheran Church in Pigeon. Richard passed away in 2013 after they had more than 61 wonderful years together.

Lillian instilled a strong work ethic into her children. She was a working wife and mother who always had time for whatever came up in life. She worked at the Elkton Dairy Bar, Cass City Walbro, and in the insurance industry with her husband for many years before his death.

Lillian's favorite pastime was getting together with family and friends. She was well known for throwing impromptu family get-togethers whenever a family member from out-of-state (or country) came to visit. She enjoyed her morning coffee at Main Street with "the crew" and afternoon tea with dear friends. She and Richard loved to travel and always looked forward to their family vacations. She spent time vacationing in Alaska with Richard, his brother Allen and sister-in-law, Betty in 2002. Other trips included visits to Germany, Canada, Arizona, Minnesota (to see her granddaughter Emily), and beyond. But many vacations were spent with family and friends up north at their cabin or during earlier years camping with the kids and the grandkids. A lot of wonderful memories remain from those simpler times.

Lillian was an independent woman who was determined to keep doing things for herself. She had goals in life and most recently met one last goal. She wanted to move into Country Bay. We are so proud of our mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

Lillian is survived by two sons, Richard (Peggy) Koehler of Pigeon, Rodney (Alice) Koehler of Traverse City; daughter Laurie (Art) Britt of Caseville; four grandchildren, Brian Koehler of Mount Pleasant, Emily Gray Koehler (Kyle Axtell) of White Bear Lake, Minnesota, Randall (Beth) Britt of Caseville, and Aaron (Chastity) Britt of Caseville; and four great-grandchildren, Taylor, Hannah, Parker, and Gage all of Caseville. She is also survived by two sisters, Elizabeth Smelts of Pigeon and Mary Ruth Hirak of Arizona; and one brother, Mike (Gayle) Hnatiuk of Sanford; brother-in-law Allen (Betty) Koehler of Gladwin; and several nieces and nephews. She

was predeceased by four sisters, Jeanette, Sylvia, Alice, and Mildred; and five brothers, Walter, William, Andrew, Milton, and Daniel.

The funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, September 23, 2016 at Cross Lutheran Church, Pigeon, with Rev. Timothy Loehrke, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Cross Lutheran Church or Cross Lutheran School.

VISITATION AT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, PIGEON:

Thursday, September 22 2-8 p.m.

Friday, September 23 10 a.m. until service at 11 a.m.