

Bruce, John L.

John L. "Jack" Bruce, 80, of Elkton, died Wednesday afternoon, May 17, 2006, at St. Mary's Medical Center in Saginaw from a ruptured aortic aneurysm. He was born August 7, 1925 in Chandler Township at the home of his parents, the late Alec and Laura (Mc Donald) Bruce. Jack was inducted into the U.S. Army after high school and served during World War II in the Philippines. After he returned from the army, he married Bernadine M. Gelnow on September 28, 1947 at St. Felix Catholic Church in Pinnebog. They made their home and raised their children on the family farm in Chandler Township. While farming, Jack also worked as a truck driver at Michigan Lumber Fabricators in Elkton. Bernie passed away July 26, 1971. He married Patricia A. (LaCross) Kivel on August 24, 1973 at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church in Pigeon and they moved to Elkton a short time later. Jack continued his work at Michigan Lumber until they closed in 1979. He then worked at Active Industries until retiring in 1989. Although retired, he worked part-time for Auto Color of Elkton and drove trucks for Herford Farms. He was a member of St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church and the Tip of the Thumb VFW Post No. 2236 in Pigeon. Surviving are his wife, Patricia, 11 children, John (Jenny) Bruce, of Pigeon, Ted (Kathy) Bruce, of Benzonia, Dan (Sally) Bruce, of Elkton, Jim (Harriett) Bruce, of Bay Port, Bill (Linda) Bruce, of Unionville, Lorie (Ray) Krohn, Kathy (Randy) Kerr, and Mike Bruce, all of Elkton, Dave (Edwinna) Bruce, of Capac, and Brad Bruce, of Clarkston; three step-children, Gary (Paulette) Kivel, of Lupton, Sherry Burns, of Cass City, and Kevin Kivel, of Elkton; 37 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Barb Herford, of Elkton; son-in-law, Paul Smith, of Lapeer; and a sister, Marge (Willard) Seley, of Elkton. Preceding him in death were three children, Susan Bruce, Linda Smith, and Don Bruce; his granddaughter, Kalee Bruce; and four sisters, Kate Itchue, Angela Walsh, Genevieve Treen, and Ann Lincoln. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2006, at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church in Pigeon. The Rev. Fr. Joseph Schabel will officiate with burial at St. Felix Cemetery in Pinnebog. A parish scripture service will be conducted at 7 p.m. on Friday at the Champagne Funeral Chapel in Elkton. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home and after 10 a.m. on Saturday at the church. Memorials may be given to St. Francis or to the family. Words of condolence may be left at www.cfcElkton.com.