

Kretzschmer, Geraldine

Geraldine M. "Geri" Kretzschmer, 51, of Owendale died Thursday, June 6, 2002, in her home after a long illness. She was born Oct. 18, 1950, in Alpena to Edward R. and Georgene (Manning) Donakowski. She married Charles L. "Yogi" Kretzschmer on April 14, 1970, in Toledo. Geri worked for Combined Insurance for nearly 10 years as an assistant regional manager and national staff member. She worked for Central States Insurance as vice president. For 13 years, Geri owned and operated Senior Care Insurance Services, providing many products to the elderly. She attended Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University. Geri truly loved and enjoyed working with her clients. She was a very active member of Owendale United Methodist Church. She enjoyed music and played by ear piano, organ and harmonica. Over the years, Geri and Charles hosted many foreign exchange students and cared for many foster children. She was very artistic, using her gift in drawing and ceramics. She loved vacationing with her family and friends. In her earlier years, she enjoyed politics. Geri was very charismatic person. She was giving with her mind, hands and heart. Geri is survived by her husband, Charles; daughters, Mardi Pavlichek and her husband, Christopher, of Owendale, Dr. Bradi Kretzschmer Boyce and her husband, Dr. Brent M. Boyce, of Harper Woods and Kelly Gruber and her husband, William J. Jr., of Gagetown; mother, Georgene Carpenter and her husband, Thomas, of Bay City and Alpena; grandson, Blake Maxwell Gruber, and a second grandchild is due in January; step-grandchildren, David and Dillon Pavlichek; brothers, David Donakowski and his wife, Barbara, of Bay City, St. Clair Donakowski and his wife, Ann, of Grayling; sister, Roberta Sullivan and her husband, David, of Brighton and Bay City; sister-in-law, Joyce Goodman and her husband, Robert, of Grand Ledge; mother-in-law, Elizabeth Kretzschmer of Owendale; nieces and nephews, Michelle Aho, Greg Donakowski, Matthew McKenzie, Monnie Schafer, Jamie Hill, Ila Campbell, Robin Johnson, Chris Goodman and Mike Goodman. Geri is preceded in death by her father, Edward Donakowski and father-in-law, Lloyd Kretzschmer. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Monday, June 10, 2002, at Cass City United Methodist Church with the Rev. John Heims of Owendale United Methodist Church officiating. Interment is in Grant Township Cemetery. Visitation is from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday at Kranz Funeral Home in Cass City and 10 to 11 a.m. Monday at the church. Memorials may be made to Owendale United Methodist Church.