

Hatlas, Mike V.

Mike V. Hatlas, 93, of Owendale passed away Saturday, July 4, 2009 in Bad Axe.

He was born April 6, 1916 to the late Frank and Josephine (Szabelska) Hatlas in Batavia, New York. As a young boy, he moved to and lived in Detroit and the Owendale area.

Mike attended Greenwood School No. 5 in Grant Twp. and received his GED in 1960 at Handy High, Bay City. In 1936, he was employed at Chrysler Corp. in Detroit.

On June 1, 1940, he was united in marriage to Helen Julia Brecht in Pigeon. In 1941, they moved to Elkton and started farming, and became a registered holstein breeder. Then in 1947, he purchased a farm in Grant Twp.

In 1960, Mike accepted a position with USDA-ASCS as district Field man and in 1970, he was with the Lake County Equalization Department as director at Baldwin. In 1975, he was elected Lake County Drain Commissioner and also was the chairman of the Lake County Public Works. Mike was a former member of the Baldwin Rotary Club was a land developer and partner in the Resort Realty Co. in Baldwin.

In 1990, Mike and Helen moved back to Grant Twp. and wintered in Zepherhills, Fla. for over 30 years. Helen preceded him in death March 10, 2006, after 66 years of marriage.

Mike was a member of St. Columbkille Catholic Church, a past member of Bad Axe Council of the Knights of Columbus No. 1546, former member of Colfax Grange and a member of the Bad Axe Moose Lodge No. 2358. He enjoyed owning antique convertible cars, was an avid golfer and loved to bowl in leagues.

Surviving are his son, Michael and special friend, Sherry Krug, of Owendale; two daughters, Diana (Fred) Kausch of Owendale and Marlene (William) Coleman of Linden; daughter-in-law, Jeannie Hatlas; five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial Mass will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 22, 2009 at St. Columbkille Catholic Church, M-53 and Atwater Rd. His cremains will be buried next to his wife in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be given to the Medical Care Facility or St. Columbkille Catholic Church.

Champagne Funeral Home in Elkton is handling the arrangements.