Anthony "Tony" J. Banek, 94, resident of Bad Axe, passed away Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at Courtney Manor with his stepdaughters at his side.

He was born July 29, 1917, and was a farmer in the Elkton area, later retiring from Pigeon Manufacturing. Tony stayed on the farm to take care of his mother. After she passed, Tony at the age of 52 married his beloved, the former Helen Cottick in August of 1970, at St. Felix Catholic Church in Pinnebog. She preceded him in death in November, 2002.

Tony was known as "Papa" to his stepchildren and grandchildren. He loved to dance, would talk to anybody, had a good buddy, Albe, his cat, and greatly enjoyed his afternoon coffee group at McDonald's Spartan Store. He was an avid fisherman and deer hunter, and enjoyed fishing and hunting with his friend, Joe Radomski, and his stepsons, Jerome, Len and Mike. Tony helped his stepsons with many different projects from building porches to roofing a new pole barn when he was 73 years old. He was a kind, generous and gentle man and will be greatly missed by all. Go in peace Papa and happy fishing!

He is survived by his stepchildren, Mary Ann (Len) Gajewski of Harbor Beach, Elizabeth Bouverette of Bad Axe, and Stan Cottick of Pigeon; stepdaughter in-law, Jean Cottick of Winston Salem, N.C., as well as his grandchildren, Andrea (Chris) Drouillard, Michael (Susan) Cottick, Matthew (Lauren) Cottick, Laura (Randy) Weber ; several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews; his sister-in-law, Helen Banek, and special friend, Talisa Powers, who assisted Tony with her caregiving.

He was preceded in death by his stepson, Michael Cottick, Jr., and his step son in-law, Jerome Bouverette.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 1, 2012 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bad Axe with Fr. Robert Howe, officiating.

Visitation will take place from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Thursday at the MacAlpine Mac Chapel, Bad Axe and 10:00 a.m. on Friday at the church until time of service.

Memorials may be offered to the Family Discretionary Fund.