

Duda, Gerald A.

Mr. Gerald A. Duda, 79, of Bad Axe died on Wednesday evening at the Huron County Medical Care Facility in Bad Axe. Jerry, as he was fondly known, went to blaze a trail to heaven on Jan. 16, 2008. Left to finish the story is his sweetheart and wife, Josephine, of nearly 55 years.

Jerry was born on Jan. 6, 1929 to the late Anthony and Bertha (Kowalsky) Duda. He married Josephine Dobson on May 16, 1953 at Our Lady Gate of Heaven Church in Detroit.

Jerry was a graduate of Bad Axe High School. He served active duty in the Army in Korea. Mr. Duda was a life long parishioner at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rapson. He was an active 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council #1546 of Bad Axe and a member of the Burhams-Hagedon American Legion Post #197 of Harbor Beach. He was a retired farmer, loved to play cards with friends and relatives and whooping it up on the Polka floor.

Mr. Duda is survived by his wife, Josephine, of Bad Axe; three children, Gail Atkins and her husband, Dennis, of Farmington Hills, Richard Duda and his wife, Dee, of Boon, Kathy Hunt and her husband, Patrick, of Imlay City; five cherished grandchildren, Brian, Laura, Tony, Mandy and Chad; one brother, Edward Duda and his wife, Lucille, of Troy; one sister, Patricia Jock and her husband, Stanley, of St. James City, Fla.; sister-in-law, Agnes Duda of Ypsilanti; very special cousin, Lincoln (Josephine) Chrysler of Warren; many loving nieces and nephews. Jerry was preceded in death by a sister, Loraine Duda; brother, Arnold Duda; and two great-grandchildren, Ethin and Makenzi.

Funeral Mass for Jerry will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rapson. The Rev. James Carlson, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery in the spring.

Friends may call at the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubley on Friday from 1:30 to 9 p.m. and at the church on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the Funeral Mass at 11 a.m. There will be a parish vigil service at 7 p.m. on Friday by the Rev. Carlson and a rosary at 8 p.m. on Friday by the Bad Axe Knights of Columbus Council #1546, both at the funeral home.