

## **Erb, Vera**

Vera Erb, 74, of Midland passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2002, at King's Daughters Home in Midland after a lengthy illness. Vera was born on June 24, 1928, in Bad Axe, daughter of Fred and Annie (Damrow) Empkie and was raised on the family farm in Port Austin. She graduated from Kinde High School and Northeastern School of Commerce in Bay City. On May 6, 1950, Vera Empkie and Cecil Rodda Erb were married in Bay City, and shortly thereafter moved to Midland. Vera was a gentle and nurturing woman who devoted her life to her family. She was a gifted seamstress, avid bridge player and talented baker. She also loved to crochet, needlepoint and do embroidery. Vera was an active participant in the Midland community, volunteering among other places at Memorial Presbyterian Church and MidMichigan Medical Center in Midland. In her later years her greatest delight was time shared with her four grandchildren. She is survived by her husband, Cecil; daughters, Nancy Goodhew and her husband, James, and Karen Sperry and her husband, Scott, both of Granger, Ind.; son, Donald Erb and his wife, Maureen, of Ft. Pierce, Fla.; three granddaughters, Katherine Goodhew, Paige Goodhew and Heather Sperry and one grandson, Bradley Sperry, all of Granger, Ind.; brother, Fred Empkie and his wife, Ann, of Port Austin; foster brother, Walter Julka and his wife, Vi, of Port Richey, Fla.; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2002, from the Ware-Smith-Woolever Funeral Chapel, 1200 West Wheeler Street in Midland. The Rev. Wallace H. Mayton III of the Memorial Presbyterian Church in Midland will officiate with interment to follow at Midland Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday and from noon until time of service on Saturday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Alzheimer's Association, 919 North Michigan Avenue, Ste. 1-100, Chicago, Illinois, 60611-1676, or King's Daughters Home, 2410 Rodd, Midland, Michigan 48642 in Vera's memory. She will be deeply missed by her loving family and many friends.