

Cove, Helen E.

Helen Evelyn Cove, 90, lifelong resident of Bad Axe, passed away Thursday, Jan. 17, 2008 at the Huron County Medical Care Facility.

Helen was born in Bad Axe on Dec. 15, 1917 to the late Albert and Genevieve (Schad) Rifenbark. Helen Rifenbark was united in marriage to Irwin Bell Cove on May 9, 1937. He preceded her in death on Jan. 29, 1989.

She attended Bad Axe High School and the Bad Axe Church of the Nazarene. She worked at the old pickle factory in Bad Axe, Bean Pot Restaurant and the Paper Roll Factory. Helen enjoyed helping other people by babysitting and doing laundry or anything else she could help with. Her hobbies included bird watching, gardening, crocheting and being a foster grandma at the school. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Cove is survived by one son, Robert (JoAnn) Cove of Bad Axe; five daughters, Dolores Smeaton of LaPorte, Ind., Barbara (Lawrence) Limberger of Cass City, Grace Shepherd and special friend Bud Billot of Bad Axe, Sandra (Gregg) Nicholas of Kinde and Diane (George) Messing of Ruth; 18 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, 8 great-great-grandchildren; one great-great-great-grandchild; six step-grandchildren; many step-great-grandchildren; two sisters, Virginia Bucholz, Joyce Hacker; and one sister in-law, Dorothy Rifenbark, all of Bad Axe.

She was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Wallace Smeaton; step-daughter, Pearl and Jack Rogers; brothers, Virgil Rifenbark and DeWayne Rifenbark; three sisters, Grace Cove, Eva McMullen and Alice Younglove; grandchildren, Kevin Limberger, Krist Nicholas and Jodie Emerick.

Funeral service was conducted at 11 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 21, 2008 at the MacAlpine "Mac Chapel" in Bad Axe. The Rev. William Thorn from the Bad Axe Church of the Nazarene officiated. In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be offered to the Church of the Nazarene in Bad Axe.