

## **Meske, Ben**

Ben C. Meske, 97, of Port Hope passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2002, at his home following a short illness. He was born in Port Hope on Nov. 30, 1904, the son of the late Charles and Theresa (Kessel) Meske. He and Helen Schoech were united in marriage in 1940 and she preceded him in death on April 19, 1962. Ben and Donelda McIntyre were married on Oct. 24, 1964, in Fenton. Ben was the owner and operator of Michigan Seeds and Supply in Louisville for many years. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Harbor Beach, the Huron Verona Masonic Lodge F&AM of Bad Axe and was a member of the Port Hope Band for many years playing trombone and violin. Ben also loved to hunt and fish. He is survived by his wife, Donelda Meske of Port Hope; a son, Alan "Ponch" Pankow and his wife, Darla of Port Hope; step children, Mary Lou and Robert Harris of Gladwin and Betty and Bryce Hagen of Ubly; six step-grandchildren, Dennis Hagen and his wife, Sharleen, Mary Hagen, Ellen Morman and her husband, Michael, E. James Hagen and his wife, Doreen, Connie Gray and her husband, Ronald, and Mark Williams; six step-great-grandchildren, Keith Hagen and his fiance, Erin Johnson, Clint Hagen and his wife, Melissa, Bradley Hagen, Nicholas Hagen, Jennifer Hagen, Joshua Williams; one step-great-great-grandson, Dylan Hagen; special care givers, Liz Booms, Sherry Kramer, Kim Umbreit, Geri Vigari and Debbie McNeal. Ben was preceded in death by three brothers, William, Hugo and Walter Meske; six sisters, Emma Beck, Flora Hawkins, Agnes VanAkin, Caroline Ackerman, Annie Tice and Ella Meske. Funeral services will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, in the First Presbyterian Church in Harbor Beach with the Rev. Theresa Cutler, pastor officiating. Burial will be in the Rock Falls Cemetery. A Masonic memorial service will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Ramsey Funeral Home in Harbor Beach. Visitation is from 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday and from noon until the time of the service on Wednesday at the funeral home.