

Esch, Freda J.

Freda Jane Esch, 76, of Pigeon, died Monday, September 5, 2005, at the Huron County Medical Care Facility in Bad Axe after a lengthy illnesses caused by diabetes and heart disease. She was born November 2, 1928 in Elkton to the late Peter and Flora (Parker) Kivel. On August 28, 1948, she and Clayton D. Esch were united in marriage at his parent's home in Winsor Township. Freda was a homemaker and devoted mother all her life. In the late 1960s, she became a beautician and owned and operated Freda's Beauty Salon on Main Street in Pigeon for more than 10 years. She and her husband enjoyed collecting antiques and antique glassware, and traveled to flea markets around the state as vendors. She also collected porcelain dolls and stuffed animals. Together, the couple enjoyed spending time together at their cabin near Mio. Freda also was a member of the Community Wesleyan Church in Elkton. Surviving are her family, who were so important to her, Clayton, her husband of 57 years; three sons, Denny (Dee) Esch, of Pigeon, Chuck (Cathy) Esch, of Elkton, and Bill, of Pigeon; seven grandchildren, Gina (Mike) Heilig, Chad (Sharon) Esch, Jeremy Esch, Holly (Marc) Smith, Matt (Lisa) Esch, Julie Esch and Erik Esch; 10 great-grandchildren, Nathan, Ryan, Morgan, Conner, Nicholas, Carter, Chaston, Justin, Lauren and Tori; two sisters, Reatha (Frank) Lawrence, of Sebewaing, and Doris (Archie) Dickinson, of Harbor Beach; four sisters-in-law, Ruby Kivel, of Harbor Beach, Pat (Jack) Bruce, of Elkton, Dody (Lloyd) Eicher, of Littleton, Colorado, and Marilyn (Jack) Ludwig, of Peoria, Arizona; one brother-in-law, Dwight (Ofie) Esch, of Valley Center, California; two special friends, Ron Kimm, of Grosse Pointe, and Denise DeLong, of Kingston; several nieces and nephews; and many friends. Preceding her in death with three brothers, Orville, Oscar and Bill Kivel; two sisters, Helene Mendel, and Janet Kivel; three nephews, Jack Bursick, Larry Kivel, and Dan Geiger; one niece, Donna Rideout. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2005, at the Community Wesleyan Church in Elkton with burial in the Grand Lawn Cemetery in Pigeon. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. today at the Champagne Funeral Chapel in Elkton and at the church after 10 a.m. on Thursday. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Community Wesleyan Church or the Huron County Medical Care Facility Resident Activity Fund.