

Castle, Mary

Mary Lois Castle, 72, of Coldwater went to be with her Lord on Monday, Jan. 14, 2002, when she died peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family. Beloved mother and grandmother, Mrs. Castle worked in advertising at various newspapers in Coldwater, Sturgis, and Bad Axe. In addition, she substitute taught at all grade levels in the Thumb Area Schools. She was an avid reader, an accomplished pianist and organist, and had recently developed her talent in painting and watercolors. She was a member of the St. Charles Boromeo Catholic Church. Born Mary Lois LaRocque in West Branch on Aug. 10, 1929, she was the daughter of the late Felix and Teresa (Carpenter) LaRocque. She graduated from St. Joseph High School in West Branch and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism in 1951 from Marygrove College in Detroit. She married the love of her life, James E. Castle on Sept. 1, 1951. He preceded her in death in April 1995. Mr. and Mrs. Castle worked and raised their children in Elkton and Bad Axe, making Coldwater their home in 1981. Mrs. Castle is survived by four sons, Jeffrey Castle and his wife, Donna, of Harbor Beach, Mark Castle and his wife, Eileen, of Flagstaff, Ariz., John Castle and his wife, Helyn, and Timothy Castle and his wife, Susan, all of Coldwater; one daughter, Mary Beth Lancaster and her husband, Kent, of Sturgis; nine grandchildren, Kim Gray and her husband, Andy, Bill Castle and his wife, Jill, and Adam Castle, all of Harbor Beach, Patrick, Michael, and Mary Castle of Coldwater, Matthew Castle of Coldwater, and Grant and Lauren Lancaster of Sturgis; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, James; and two brothers, Richard and Leon LaRocque. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 17, 2002, at St. Charles Boromeo Catholic Church in Coldwater, with Fr. Robert Creagan and Fr. Brian Stanley officiating. A Rosary will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Kolcz Funeral Home in Bronson. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, at the funeral home. Attending Mrs. Castle as pallbearers are Patrick Castle, Kurt Miller, Robert Parsons, Steve Brown, Mike Perry, and Jack Gay. Contributions in memory of Mrs. Castle may be made to the Community Health Center Foundation. Obituary also at www.kolcz.com where messages may be left for the family.