

Gaiera, Charles

Charles "Charlie" Gaiera, 94, of Pigeon, passed away Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010 at the Scheurer Hospital Long Term Care, Pigeon.

Born in Herrin, Ill. on Nov. 29, 1915, he was the son of the late Antonio and Rosalinda Gaiera. On June 15, 1939, he was married to Caroline "Carrie" Elizabeth Sachs in Detroit. She preceded him in death on Aug. 31, 2008.

Charlie was a firefighter for the City of Detroit Fire Department for more than 30 years, retiring in 1967. After his retirement, he and Carrie then moved to the Saginaw Bay Shore. He mowed lawns, and enjoyed golfing and collecting and selling lost golf balls. He also worked for George and Jeanette Beadle at Beadle Bay Marina. Charlie enjoyed collecting yard treasures, hunting and fishing, and taking family and friends for boat rides on Saginaw Bay. Riding his motorcycle in Michigan and Florida was especially fun, but most of all, he enjoyed driving and caring for his 1960 T-Bird.

He is survived by a daughter-in-law, Bonnie Gaiera of Novi; three grandchildren, Kimberly Gaiera of Hartland,Carolynn (Stephen) O'Keefe of Saline, and Greg (Heather) Gaiera of California; four great-grandchildren, Sean O'Keefe, Jackson O'Keefe, Samantha Gaiera, and Cleo Gaiera; a nephew, Lou (Dina) Miramonti; a niece, Angie (Ralph) Villeneuve; and a cousin, Lee Cerini.

He was preceded in death by a son, Charles Gaiera; and a sister, Regina Miramonti.

Cremation has taken place, and a memorial service will be conducted in the springtime.

Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army or Scheurer Hospital Long Term Care.

Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon, is conducting the arrangements.