

### **Coaster, Rita H.**

Rita Helen Coaster, 83, of Reed City, passed away Friday, Jan. 8, 2010 in Grand Rapids. She was born Sept. 1, 1926 to Thomas Stimpfel and Emma Catherine Block in Bad Axe. She was raised in Minden City and was a 1944 graduate of Minden City High School. On Aug. 21, 1946, she was married to John Xavier Coaster in Ruth, who passed away in 1987. John and Rita lived in Detroit until moving to Bad Axe in 1952, and finally moved to Reed City in 1956 where they lived the remainder of their lives together.

Active in her community, she served as vice president of St. Philip's School Association, a member of St. Philip's Home and School Guild Committee, a member of St. Philip's Finance Committee, a member of the St. Philip's Alter Society, president of the VFW Auxiliary, chairman of the Fluoride Program for Children, president of the Reed City Hospital Guild, vice president of the Osceola County Cancer Society, chairman of the American Cancer Society's Neighborhood Campaign, a member of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc., a Brownie/Girl Scout/Cub Scout Leader, a State of Michigan Republican Party Delegate, a frequent volunteer at the Reed City Hospital and for local Red Cross Blood Bank drives, and a long time member of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church.

She is survived by her daughters, Linda (Frank) Leiter of Byron Center, Evon (Larre) Roberts of Hudsonville, and Sandy (Greg) Ham of Portage; sons, Terry (Deb) Coaster of Lake City, and Mark (Carrie) Coaster of Byron Center; brother, Raymond (Vivian) Guitar of Clinton Township; sisters, Viola (Chuck) Galia of Harrison Township, Lucille (Edward) Duda of Troy, Marion (Laverne) Schefka of Sterling Heights, and Kathleen (Jerry) Pawloski of Warren; sister-in-law, Evelyn Coaster of Ubly; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Xavier Coaster; brothers, Nick, Mark and Eugene Guitar; and her sister, Stella Leppek.

Funeral service was conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 11, 2010 at the St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, Reed City with Msgr. Bill Duncan and the Rev. Fr. Loc Trinh officiating. Burial will be at Woodland Cemetery, Reed City.

Memorial contributions may be made in her name to either the American Cancer Society or to Faith Hospice of Grand Rapids, and envelopes are available at the Pruitt-Livingston Funeral Home, Reed City.

Online obituary may be viewed and condolences offered at [www.pruittlivingston.com](http://www.pruittlivingston.com)