

Grifka, Charles A.

Mr. Charles Aaron Grifka, 65 of Ubly, passed away Wednesday morning, Oct. 7, 2009 at Hills and Dales Hospital in Cass City.

He was born on Aug. 26, 1944 in Tyre to Claire (Weltin) Grifka and the late Clarence Roman Grifka.

He married Diana Lea Hacker on Oct. 21, 1967 at St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Freiburg.

Charles was a graduate of Ubly High School and attended Michigan State University. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving from August of 1966 to November of 1969. He was a retired machine repairman for General Motors and was a member of the UAW Local 699.

Charles was a parishioner at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Argyle where he was an usher, past council member and softball coach. He was a member of the St. Ignatius Cemetery Board. He was a member and past Grand Knight of the Sandusky Knights of Columbus Pius XII Council No. 4693. Charles was an avid sports fan and enjoyed farm life, scenery, casinos, polka music, and playing cards, especially euchre.

Charles is survived by his wife of 42 years, Diana; two daughters, Rebecca Cortes and her husband, Rupert, of Grand Rapids, Karlene Grifka of Westlake, Ohio; two sons, Clayton Grifka and his wife, Michelle, of Brown City, Christopher Grifka of Sandusky; seven grandchildren, Gabriel, Adrian, Charles and Michael Cortes, Brady, Clayton and Courtney Grifka; five sisters, Loretta Wojtalewicz of Shelby Township, Deana Schick and her husband, Dareld, of Rose City, Joyce Reetz and her husband, Ray, of Sand Creek, Emily Flannery and her husband, Larry, of Sterling Heights, Kristina Baumer and her husband, James, of Metamora; several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son, Clarence Raymond Grifka; and one brother-in-law, Gerald Wojtalewicz.

Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Argyle. The Rev. Joseph Griffin will officiate. Burial will be in the St. Ignatius Cemetery in Freiburg with military honors.

Visitation will be from 3 to 9 p.m. on today at the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubly and from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturday at the church only. There will be a Knights of Columbus Rosary at 7:30 tonight and a parish vigil service at 6:30 p.m. Both services will be at the funeral home.