

Grifka, Alfred

Mr. Alfred Grifka, 67, of Petoskey and formerly of Ubly, passed away Friday, Nov. 30, 2007 at the Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey.

Al was born on May 26, 1940 in Bingham Township to the late Robert and Anna (Peplinski) Grifka.

He married Barbara Jean Bare on July 18, 1963 at St. Michael Catholic Church in Pontiac.

Al and Barb farmed most of their lives in Ubly. Al served on the Ubly Community Schools Board of Education for many years. He was a member of the Ubly Jaycees and served as former president. Al was a former member of the Ubly Fox Hunters Club, the Ubly Lions Club, the Ubly Heights Golf and Country Club and a Moose Lodge member.

Al is survived by his wife of 44 years, Barbara, of Petoskey; five children, Tina Osantoski and her husband, Jim, of Bad Axe, Derrick Grifka and his wife, Jodi, of Ubly, Tanya Messing and her husband, Leo, of Ubly, Daymond Grifka and his wife, Tricia, of Ashley, Devin Grifka of Ubly; 12 grandchildren, Derek Glaza, Robert Messing, Cody Grifka, Alexandria Stevenson, Ryan Messing, Tyler Grifka, Madison Grifka, Katrina Stevenson, Cooper Grifka, Tess Grifka, Travis Osantoski and Trista Osantoski; one sister, Anna Mae Bambach and her husband, Dale, of Ubly. Al was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Anna Grifka; one sister, Charlotte McClenahan; two brothers, Jerome and Leon Grifka.

Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007 at St. John Catholic Church in Ubly. The Rev. Joseph Griffin, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the St. John Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. Monday, from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesday at Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubly. There will be a rosary at 7 p.m. on Monday evening at the funeral home.

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