

**Cooper, Beatrice E.**

Beatrice Ledsworth Cooper, 112, Michigan's oldest native born resident, passed away Monday, May 4, 2009 in the Lakeview Extended Care and Rehab Center of the Harbor Beach Community Hospital.

Born in Port Hope on Feb. 3, 1897, she was the daughter of the late James and Evaline (Facer) Martin.

She was a graduate of Port Hope High School in 1913.

Bea was married to Eber Ledsworth in 1924 and he preceded her in death in 1941. She then married Winter Cooper in 1951 and he preceded her in death in 1968.

Bea was a member of the Community of Christ Church in Harbor Beach and the Port Hope Retirees. She enjoyed traveling to Mackinac Island with the retirees. Her great sense of humor made her a delight to travel with. She was an avid Detroit Tigers fan, watching the Tigers win the evening before she died. One of her highlights was going to the Tiger game and meeting Ernie Harwell in the broadcast booth when she was 103 years old. Bea was registered as a Super Centinarian being the 24th oldest person in the Nation as well as second in Michigan but being the oldest Michigan born resident.

She is survived by a daughter, Thelma Ferguson of Cadillac; and by several grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers; and two sisters.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 7, 2009 in the Ramsey Funeral Home, Harbor Beach with High Priest William Wells of the Community of Christ Church officiating. Burial will be in the Rock Falls Cemetery, Harbor Beach.

Visitation will be from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday and from noon until the time of services at 2 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home.