

Smith, Gerald I.

Gerald I. Smith, 69, of Bad Axe, passed away Friday, February 23, 2007, at his home following a short illness. He was born December 31, 1937 in Port Hope, son of the late Harold and Helen (Bucholtz-Chaplinski) Schmidt Sr. He married Shirley Leppek on February 10, 1984 in Bad Axe. She preceded him in death on September 25, 2001. Mr. Smith was employed by General Cable, Chrysler, and Active Industries before his retirement. His interests included playing the lottery, fishing, playing cards, gardening, making crafts and spending time with his family and friends. He is survived by three daughters, Virginia Gates and her husband, of Florida, Sherri Brenner, of Sterling Heights, and Isabella Talaski, of Bad Axe; two sons, Captain Gerald Smith Jr., and his wife, Olena, of Virginia, and John Smith and his wife, Amy, of Clio; and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Harold Smith Jr., Frederick Smith, and Wallace Smith; one sister, Betty Zick. In keeping with his wishes, there will be no service or visitation. Arrangements are being handled by the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe.