

Barbara J. Edel

Barbara J. Edel, 75, of Bad Axe passed away Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009 at Courtney Manor in Bad Axe.

She was born Aug. 7, 1934 in Flint, daughter of the late Christian E. and Stephanie (Urbanik) Lukasavitz.



She married Gerald J. Edel Sept. 8, 1956 in All Saints Catholic Church in Flint.

Barbara graduated from Flint Junior College and Michigan State University with a B.S. in accounting and economics. She earned her master of arts degree from Regis University in Denver, Colo. majoring in community administration. Upon graduation from Michigan State, Barbara worked in the accounting department for Kettering University (General Motors Institute) in Flint. She took time away from the workplace to raise her six children. She was active in St. Mary's Queen of Angels Parish in Swartz Creek. The family moved to Bad Axe in 1968 when her husband accepted a store manager position with the Dibble's Stores. Barbara taught English at Sacred Heart Catholic School for three years. She was the assistant principal at the school the final year it was open (1971). Barbara was the director of the Head Start Program in Bad Axe for six years. She passed along her strong faith in God to her family. She was a true servant in many ministries at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. She was the Director of Religious Education, Coordinator of Pastoral Ministries, Director of RCIA, sang in the choir, and recently taught fourth grade religious education this past year. She touched the lives of many students when she served as a substitute teacher in schools throughout the Thumb.

Barbara was active as a scout leader and band booster. She loved to play games with her grandchildren, crossword puzzles, travel to visit her family, and throw festive holiday parties. She will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her husband, Gerald J. Edel of Bad Axe; three daughters, Susan Nosal of Colorado Springs, Colo., Laurie (Gary) Pionk of Ruth, Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Edel Stone and her fiancé, Michael Zerphy, of Windsor, Vt.; three sons, Gerald E. (Mary) Edel of Suwanee, Ga., Paul Christian Edel and friend of the family, Brian Wilhour of Arlington, Va., Joel (Jitka) Edel of Charlotte, N.C.; two brothers, Christian Lukasavitz of Detroit, Raymond (Kathy) Lucas of Ann Arbor; one sister, Jean Marie (Ron) Miscisin of Oscoda; 12 grandchildren, Breanna, Kara and Jenna Nosal of Colorado Springs, Colo., Lesley (Dan) Hellerstedt of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Eric and Ross Pionk of Ruth, Megan, Marc and Max Edel of Suwanee, Ga., Xavier and Casimir Stone and Zofia Zerphy of Windsor, Vt.

She was preceded in death by one infant daughter, Baby Angel; and one infant granddaughter, Stephanie Susanne Pionk.

Services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, 2009 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bad Axe. Officiating will be Fr. Rob Howe, pastor. Interment will be in New Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Flint.

Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe, from 10 a.m. until the service time at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church. A rosary will be offered at 6:30 p.m. Friday followed by a scripture service at 7 p.m., both at the funeral home.

Memorials may be offered to Relay For Life (American Cancer Society) or Sacred Heart Catholic Church religion education.