

Breternitz, Helen A.

Helen A. "Tobi" (Horny) Breternitz, 59, of Bay Port and formerly of Bay City, left this earth Monday evening, February 7, 2005, at Covenant Healthcare Harrison following a short battle with cancer. She went to meet her Lord Jesus Christ, and will be reunited with her parents, John and Augusta (Gregus) Horny; sisters, Agnes and Mary Ann (Horny) Fordos; and brother, Jimmy Horny. She was born September 28, 1945 in Saginaw. She had been employed by the U.S. Post Office in both Hemlock and Bay City as a rural mail carrier for 27 years before retiring in 2000. Tobi was a very active volunteer in the Bay City community; a member of St. Patrick's Parade Association; Fireworks Festival charter member; a lifetime member of the AmVets Post No. 22. Tobi was a host parent to over 97 foreign exchange students and was the first recipient of the Princess Wenona Award for volunteerism in 1985. She also was a life member of the Scotch Picnic Society in Fremont Township and she was Secretary of the Rose Island Association in Bay Port. Tobi made her mark on Bay City by serving as the 3rd Ward City Commissioner and running for mayor. She made a mark on our hearts and lives forever by loving and giving of herself continuously and unselfishly. Tobi is survived by the highlights of her life, her children, Troy Bushong and his wife, Carolyn, of Comstock Park; Tricia Rutherford and her husband, Scott, of Bay City; four precious grandchildren, Jarrod and Gabriel Bushong and Aaron and Trinity Rutherford; also her wonderful siblings and families, John "Sonny" and Sharon Horny, of Sebewaing, Virginia Siler, of Merrill, Barbara Lewandowski, of Bay City, Stephen James and Diana Horny, of Saginaw; RoseAnn and Larry Delemeester, of St. Charles, Patricia and Fred Hoewe, of Freeland, Betty and Mike McGee, of Sebewaing, Joan Duran, Robert Horny and Don Horny, all of Hemlock; hundreds of nieces and nephews and thousands of neighbors and friends. Tobi left these parting words: "If I have touched your life in any way and you have touched mine by loving me back, than I have completed the circle of life, and I thank you. I love you all and am waiting until we meet again." A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11 a.m. on Friday, February 11, 2005, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Sebewaing. Fr. John Weis and Fr. Jim Bessert will officiate with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. today and 1 to 9 p.m. on Thursday at the Dinkel-Juengel Funeral Home in Sebewaing. She will lie in state from 10 a.m. until the time of service on Friday at the church.