

Port Austin Girl Stricken At Fair

1968

A 12-year-old Port Austin girl who defied medical science and a doctor's prediction at her birth that she would not live past six months, was stricken at the Huron County Fair Wednesday afternoon and died soon after admission to Hubbard Memorial hospital, Bad Axe.



Laurie Parks

Laura "Laurie" Harriet Parks, daughter of Mrs. Fran-

cis Gregory, Port Austin and Leonard Parks, Bad Axe, was born with an enlarged heart and later acquired an asthmatic condition. Doctors at Detroit's Henry Ford hospital described her as a "miracle child" and considered her sustained life a medical phenomenon. A resuscitator was kept on hand throughout the child's life to ward off periodic attacks.

Wednesday afternoon at the fairgrounds as the child watched a helicopter lift off the ground, she apparently became excited and suffered a seizure. Huron deputy Brent Woodward rushed the child to the hospital while an unidentified Bad Axe resident administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Laurie Parks died soon after admission to the hospital.

She was born January 8, 1956 in Bad Axe and lived in Port Austin all her life.

She was a sixth grade student at St. Michael's Catholic school in Port Austin.

Surviving are her parents, two brothers, Michael and Terry, both at home and a sister, Jacquelyn, also at home.

Remains are at the MacAlpine funeral home, Bad Axe.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.