

Coates, Kenneth

Kenneth Coates, 76, of Caseville, died Thursday morning, November 27, 2003, at his home. He was born February 26, 1927 in East Detroit to the late Earl and Esther (Maxwell) Coates. After high school, Ken joined the Merchant Marines and served in the South Pacific during World War II. He married Dorothy E. Pitcher on June 21, 1947 in Bad Axe. They lived in Fillion for a year before moving to Auburn where they stayed for several years. In 1952 they moved to Sanford and raised their family. Ken was a master plumber. He was a member of Local 85 and had been the superintendent of Faulkner Construction. He worked for Reliable Plumbing and Heating and Max Carey Plumbing and Heating, both of Midland, for over 45 years, retiring in 1987. That same year they moved to their place in Caseville. Ken loved the out of doors, especially fishing, hunting and his dog. He was a member of the Caseville Eagles and the Sturgeon Creek Beagle Club of Midland. Surviving are his wife of 56 years, Dorothy; three sons, David Coates and his wife, Jean, and Bruce Coates and his wife, Joanne, all of Midland, and Steve Coates and his wife, Debbie, of Sanford; two daughters, Kathy Jerry and her husband, Mike, of Merrill, and Janice Kelley and her husband, Bruce, of Pearland, Texas; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and Ken's sister, Mildred Roberts, of Vassar. A memorial service will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 30, 2003, at the Champagne Funeral Chapel, Caseville, where the family will receive friends from noon until the time of services Sunday. The Rev. Michael Quayle, pastor of the Caseville United Methodist Church, will officiate. Cremation has taken place, and burial will be in the Caseville Township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Caseville United Methodist Church. If you are unable to attend, you may sign the guest book at www.CFCcaseville.com.