

Leavine, Joseph

Joseph "Polka Joe" Leavine, 68, of Dwight Township near Port Austin, died Saturday, November 29, 2003, at his home while under hospice care. Mr. Leavine was born March 20, 1935 in Dwight Township. He was the son of the late Lewis and Gertrude (Andreski) Leavine. He attended Kelly Rural Country School, Dwight Township. Joseph was a parishioner of St. Michael's Catholic Church, Port Austin, and a lifelong farmer. He was a licensed builder. He was a musician and loved to play the accordion with Clem Zurek, Pat Hoody and others at weddings, anniversaries, and the Huron County Medical Care Facility. He enjoyed playing cards, visiting with his family and friends and was a former member of the Grindstone-Port Hope Sportsman's Club. Surviving are one son, Michael Leavine, of Port Austin; three daughters, Rosalie Bitterling and her husband, Gary, of Ubly, Linda Gembarski and her husband, Mark, of Port Austin, and Valerie Schramski and her husband, James, of Bad Axe; six grandchildren, Dawn Eller and her husband, Eric, of Cadillac, Marie Waldi and her husband, Kevin, of Warren, Vanessa Gembarski and Jody Gembarski, both of Port Austin, Aaron Schramski and Breann Schramski, both of Bad Axe; two great-grandchildren, Brandon and Heather Eller; and one brother, Philip Leavine, of Port Austin. Joseph was preceded in death by one brother, Gerald Leavine. Mass of Christian burial will take place at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2003, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Port Austin. Fr. Robert J. Pare, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery. The parish wake scripture will be offered at 7 p.m. tonight at the MacAlpine Funeral Home-Gage Chapel in Kinde. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 to 10:30 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Expressions of sympathy may be offered to St. Michael's Catholic Church or the Family Discretionary Fund.