

Irene B. Elchert

Irene B. Elchert, 87, of New Riegel, died Thursday evening, Nov. 18, 2004, at St. Catherine's Care Center in Findlay.

Mrs. Elchert was born Oct. 11, 1917, in New Riegel and was the daughter of Alphonse and Sarah (Gerber) Schalk and stepdaughter of the late Catherine Reinhart Schalk. On Jan. 14, 1936, in St. Boniface Catholic Church, she married Louis E. Elcher; he died June 18, 1994.

She is survived by eight sons: Alton (Joanne) Elchert, Ronald G. (Judy) Elchert, Larry (Donna) Elchert, all of Tiffin; Wilbur (Jean) Elchert, Glenn (Sharon) Elchert of Fostoria; Vern (Donna) Elchert, Howard (Maryann) Elchert, Russell (Ann) Elchert, all of New Riegel. Also surviving are five daughters, Anita (Joseph) Marovich of Howell, N.J.; Dalene (George) Reinhart of Holland, Ohio; Carole Elchert of Findlay; Florence (Robert) Funk of Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Theresa (William) Allen of Forest; 36 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Other survivors include five brothers, Florus (Viola) Schalk, Art (Shirley) Schalk, of Tiffin; Simon (Martha) Schalk of New Riegel; George Schalk of Wisconsin; Raymond (Ann) Schalk of Findlay; and four sisters: Rita Wurm, Rose (Joe) Smith, Gervase (William) Craig, all of Tiffin, and Marie Scherger of New Riegel.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Norman and Duane Elchert; a grandson, Rodney Elchert; great-granddaughter, Olivia Risner; a brother, Bruno Schalk; and a sister, Alice Schalk Nye.

Mrs. Elchert attended New Riegel School and enjoyed spending time with her friends and family, where praying the Rosary became a family event. She loved playing Euchre and bingo with her friends and was an avid Cleveland Indians fan. She also enjoyed listening to her country and polka music, especially Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass. In 1957, the Annual Rural Life award was given to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Edmund Elchert for outstanding rural family of the Toledo Diocese, given by Bishop George J. Rehring and Pastor Rev. Leo A. Hoying.

The funeral Mass will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2004, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in New Riegel, with the Rev. Ronald A. Schock presiding. A Rosary will be prayed 15 minutes prior to the Mass. Burial will be in St. Boniface Cemetery.

Visitation will be 2-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22, 2004, at Hoffmann-Gottfried-Mack Funeral Home, 236 S. Washington St., Tiffin.

Donations may be made to St. Boniface Cemetery Chapel, Bridge Home Health and Hospice of Findlay, or to a charity of the donor's choice.