

Mary Ference

FERENCE - Mary, 93, of 528 Main St., Central City and lately Arbutus Park Manor, passed from this life on Nov. 14, 2006. Born on Oct. 8, 1913, in Windber, daughter of Nicholas and Catherine (Mitza) Sobeck. Preceded in death by parents; beloved husband, John Ference, who died Nov. 20, 1995; and sisters, Rose Demko and Anna Golian. Survived by loving son, Dr. James E. Ference, and wife, Julie (Keim) of Richland Township; granddaughter, Jami M. Ference, 26, of Atlanta, Ga.; and grandsons, John P. Ference, 25, of New York City; and Christian J. Ference, 13. She also is survived by siblings, Sophie Kubala of Miami, Fla; Katherine Reinholtz, Hazel Park, Mich.; Nellie Kubala of Willow Street, Pa.; John, married to Iola Jessewin of Royal Oak, Mich.; Stella, wife of Enos Myers, Willow Street; and Peter, married to former Elaine Magnone of Detroit, Mich; and numerous nieces and nephews. Mary was a devoted member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, now renamed Our Lady Queen of Angels, an active member of the Legion of Mary and the Rosary Society and was a leader actively helping and directing many church activities over decades of involvement. She was the organizer and central figure running the Boy Scout fundraising efforts, particularly the rummage sales/thrift shop, for Troop 121 in Central City and raised many thousands of dollars so that boys could attend camp and participate in scouting without financial worries or limitations. She supported relatives who lived in Europe under Communist rule behind the Iron Curtain for decades with shipments of clothing and medication. In 1986, she was voted Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Shade-Central City Chamber of Commerce. She actively assisted her husband in the family businesses, which included a printing business and a radio and television sales and repair business. She was feisty and thorough, yet compassionate and understanding, and most in glory when helping others. Special thanks to the extraordinary people of Arbutus Park Manor. Friends received from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at Mulcahy Funeral Home, Central City, where vigil for the deceased will be held. Funeral Mass will be con-celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday at Our Lady Queen of Angels Chapel, Central City, the Rev. Daniel Kubala, Mary's nephew, and the Rev. Joseph Maurizio, pastor. Burial will be at St. John the Baptist Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Boy Scouts of America in memory of Mary Ference.