

OBITUARIES

Kenneth O'Connor

Kenneth George O'Connor, 81, of Pickford, was a longtime teacher and coach at Pickford schools and established O'Connor's automobile dealership in Pickford. Some of Mr. O'Connor's favorite memories included earning his Army Air Force Wings, coaching Pickford's basketball team in the Class D finals, and receiving District and National Awards from Chrysler Corporation. Mr. O'Connor died Tuesday, August 1, 2006, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie.

He was born January 14, 1925, in Montello, Wisconsin, to William and Catherine (nee Fenlon) O'Connor.

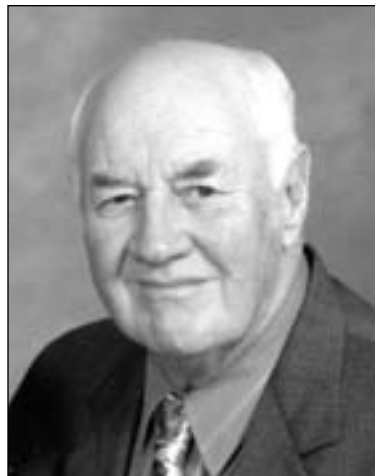
After graduation from Montello High School in 1943, he entered the Army Air Force Cadet Training Program. He was graduated as a Second Lieutenant, Bombardier Navigator. After World War II, Mr. O'Connor attended Oshkosh State Teachers College and later was graduated from Northern Michigan University. He worked on Transmission Line Construction, and then, from 1954 to 1976, he taught school and coached sports in Pickford.

Mr. O'Connor purchased a used car sales license in 1959 and sold used automobiles. In 1972, he added a Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge franchise and later added Jeep and Eagle. Although ill health forced him to retire in 1994, some of his sons continue his business at O'Connor's in Pickford.

He was a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church in Barbeau, where he served as Parish Council member, lector, and on the Loretto School Board. He was a former member of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Venice, Florida. Mr. O'Connor served on the Pickford School Board of Education for one term, was a member of the Retired Teachers of Chippewa and Mackinac counties, a past member of the Pickford Lions Club, Michigan Auto Dealers Association, National Auto Dealers Association, and the Chrysler Pentastar Club.

Mr. O'Connor enjoyed golfing as a member at the Munoscong Golf Association in Pickford and at Plantation Golf Club in Venice, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor enjoyed travel and his awards from Chrysler Corporation included trips to several U.S. cities, and abroad, to Rome and Venice, Italy.



Kenneth O'Connor

Madrid, Spain, Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal, Canada, London, England, and Paris, France.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann (nee Noreen); six sons and their families, William O'Connor, Richard "Duke" O'Connor, and Barry and Mary O'Connor, all of Pickford, Dan O'Connor of Kincheloe, Timothy and Jeanette O'Connor of Little Rock, Arkansas, and Thomas and Mary Kaye O'Connor of Yukon, Oklahoma; nine grandchildren, Marc, Joshua, Jordan, Chelsey Marie, Kenneth, Thomas, Zachery, Jonathan Chance, and Hailee Jo; one great-grandson, Logan; step-grandchildren, Paul, Kelly, Mark, and Katie Madison, and Justin and Rachel Allen; and four step-great-grandchildren. Mr. O'Connor is also survived by a sister-in-law, Ella O'Connor, a niece, Mary Ellen Bakken, a nephew, Michael P. O'Connor, and their families, all of Madison, Wisconsin; a brother-in-law and his wife, Richard and Sandy Noreen and their family of Rohnert Park, California; and a brother-in-law, Drew Onsgaard of Vancouver, Washington.

He was preceded in death by one son, Kenneth George O'Connor Jr., his parents, one sister, Mary Ellen O'Connor, and two brothers, Anthony and Thomas O'Connor.

Visitation was held Thursday, August 3, from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

with prayers at 8:30 p.m. at Reamer Galer Funeral Home in Pickford. Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday, August 4, at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Barbeau, with Brother John Hascall as celebrant.

Entombment will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in Bruce Township.

Timothy Sims

Timothy Mark Sims of St. Ignace loved taking day trips around the Eastern Upper Peninsula with staff and friends at his home at Pleasant View Adult Foster Care in St. Ignace.

Mr. Sims was 51 when he died Sunday, August 6, 2006, in St. Ignace.

He was born August 22, 1954, in Sault Ste. Marie.

He enjoyed listening to music and traveling.

Mr. Sims is survived by two sisters and their families, Brenda and Gerald Morningstar of St. Ignace and Gloria Jeske of West Bend, Wisconsin, three brothers and their families, Keith and Coila Sims of Georgetown, Texas, Wade and Elva Sims of Loudon, Tennessee, and Barry and Nancy Sims of

Anderson, South Carolina, and 13 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Montgomery Sims, his mother, Mary Isabelle (nee Smith) Sims, and two sisters, Susan Sims and Georgia Lamb.

Services will be Wednesday, August 9, at noon at Reamer Galer Funeral Home in Pickford. Pastor Robert Clawson will officiate. The family will receive friends from 11 a.m., until the time of the service.

Burial will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in Bruce Township.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to Pleasant View Adult Foster Care, 861 Portage Road, St. Ignace Michigan 49781, or to the Stalwart Presbyterian Church, 8317 E. M-48, Stalwart Michigan 49736.

John 'Ben' Bell

John Benson "Ben" Bell of Sebastian, Florida, formerly of St. Ignace, Arlington, Massachusetts, and Ocean Park, Maine, died April 12, 2006, at the age of 76 in Sebastian.

He was born May 1, 1929, in St. Ignace to Kirk Leroy Bell and Helen Margaret (nee Benson) Bell. Mr. Bell, known locally as Ben, was a graduate of LaSalle High School in the class of 1947. He worked as a livestock hand at Krostue's Dairy and also will be remembered for his prowess in high school athletics and later as a member of the St. Ignace Merchants basketball team.

Mr. Bell sailed as a seaman on the Great Lakes and served in the United States Navy as a Boatswain's Mate, Second Class aboard the USS Salem during the Korean War. He worked in construction and precision equipment businesses in the Boston area until his retirement.

Mr. Bell will be sorely missed and always faced life's adversities with courage and humor, friends said, and his "happy thoughts" philosophy lightened many a dark moment.

He was a devoted husband to Claire Elaine (nee Hardin) Bell, who preceded him in death, and to Margaret Seaver (nee Hayes) Bell. In addition to his wife, Margaret, he is survived by his children, Elaine, John, Francis, and Kathryn Dutton, all of Maine, and stepchildren Margaret Andrews and Maurleen Heiligmann, both of New Hampshire, Robert of Florida, and

Kewadin Casinos Rank High in Gaming Magazine

Kewadin Casinos earned five awards from readers of *Midwest Gaming and Travel* magazine, who voted the casinos their choice in Michigan for best players club at all properties, best players club parties at Sault Ste. Marie, best cash back at all properties, favorite casino buffet at Dream Catchers Restaurant in Sault Ste. Marie, and best concert venue at Dream Maker Theater, also in Sault Ste. Marie.

The casinos are owned by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, with locations at St. Ignace, Hessel, Sault Ste. Marie, Christmas, and Manistique.

The magazine is published monthly and distributed in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.



John 'Ben' Bell

Joseph and Michael Hayes, both of Massachusetts. He is survived by eight grandchildren and four step-grandchildren. He is further survived by a stepsister, Joyce M. Halitsky of St. Ignace, a step-aunt, Joan F. Vallier of St. Ignace, a stepbrother, Gerald W. Bell of Indialantic, Florida, a stepsister, Roberta C. (nee Bell) Paquin of Mackinaw City, close cousins Art Hopperstead of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Helen (nee Hopperstead) Wynns of Exeter, Missouri, and Carilon (nee Hopperstead) Carr of Grand Rapids.

Mr. Bell was preceded in death by his mother, Helen M. Bell, a younger brother, Kirk Leroy Bell Jr., his stepmother, Bernice A. Bell, his father, Kirk Leroy "Roy" Bell, a stepbrother, John W. Stauffer, and his first wife, Claire.

A memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's Church in Laconia, New Hampshire Thursday, April 27. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Ignace United Methodist Church or Boston College High School, 150 Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester, Massachusetts 02125.



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Barbara Maleport

Barbara Marlene (nee Thornton) Maleport of Sault Ste. Marie passed away Wednesday evening, August 2, 2006, with her family by her side.

She was born November 4, 1933, to Frank "Cokey Joe" and Sylvia Thornton in Rudyard.

Mrs. Maleport was a very giving and caring person, friends said, a loving mother and wife who always placed other people's needs ahead of her own. She enjoyed going to church on Saturday and always prayed for relatives or friends in need; her family and friends nicknamed her "Saint Barb." She also loved to shop, travel, and play bingo with her friends. Mrs. Maleport enjoyed being surrounded by family, friends, and her pets and always had a smile for everyone she met.

Mrs. Maleport always took pride in her family and work. She worked at First National Bank for many years as a bookkeeper and later in her career at Sault Printing Company, which she and her husband purchased in 1969.

She is survived by Ted, her husband of 54 years. Also surviving are her sons and their families, Ron and Kathy Maleport and Mick and Cathy Maleport, a daughter and her family, Cindy and Tim Albon, and grandchildren Christine, Nicole, Katie, Justin, Shane, Shauna, Ben, Marcy, Stacy and Matt, and Darryle. She is also survived by her uncle, Dick Monahan, cousins and their families, Fred and Rose Monahan, Bill and Arlene Monahan, and Jerry and Barb Skorski, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Don and Judy



Barbara Maleport

Maleport, Wendell and Sue Maleport, and Rosetta Maleport. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Maleport was predeceased by her mother, father, and a sister, Marion, who passed away during her childhood years. She was also predeceased by a special aunt, Lois Monahan, aunt Mayme McClendon, and a cousin, Judy (nee Monahan) Murphy.

Visitation was held Sunday, August 6, from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home. Prayers were held at 8 p.m. Funeral Mass was held Monday, August 7, at 1 p.m. at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church with Brother John Hascall as celebrant. Burial was at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

Memorials may be directed to St. Isaac Jogues Church, Holy Family Church of Barbeau, or Hospice of Chippewa County.

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