**Gwendolyn M. Stepniewski,** age 90 of Manistee, Michigan died Tuesday, January 20, 2015 unexpectedly at her home.

She was born on August 19, 1924 in Kaleva, Michigan and was the daughter of the late Edgar R. and Minnie (Losey) Hilliard. She was a graduate of Kaleva High School with the class of 1942. She married Joseph C. Stepniewski on October 26, 1946 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. They celebrated over 62 years of marriage before his death on July 8, 2009. Gwen was all about family and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She also enjoyed cooking, baking and reading in her spare time.

She was a member of the Catholic Community of Manistee (St. Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine), a member of the St. Mary's Altar Society and formerly active with the girl scouts as well as the boy scouts.

She is survived by one daughter & son-in-law: Cassandra & Phil Ludwigson and two sons & daughters-in-law, Marc & Susan Stepniewski and Phillip & Tammy Roskoski all of Manistee, four grandchildren, David, Lisa (Bobby), Jennifer, and Matthew (Shawna), two great grandchildren, Alexis & Max. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Gwen was preceded in death by six sisters and five brothers.

Mass from the Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 23, 2015 at St. Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine Church in Manistee with Reverend John McCracken Celebrant. Burial will follow in Mount Carmel Cemetery also in Manistee. The family will be at the church on Friday morning, one hour prior to Gwen's funeral mass to receive friends.

The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.