

Sharon Kay Switalski, age 73 of Manistee, Michigan, died Thursday, April 6, 2017 at her home surrounded by her family. She was born on May 30, 1943 in Manistee, Michigan and was the daughter of the late Donald and Gloria (Popielarz) Vadeboncoeur Sr. She was a graduate of Saint Joseph High School with the class of 1961. Sharon married her high school sweetheart, Dennis Ralph Switalski, on September 5, 1964 at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. Dennis preceded her in death on April 8, 2014, just four months before they would have celebrated fifty years of marriage together. Sharon and Dennis were owners and operators of Switalski Orchards where they also had a small produce stand. They both enjoyed meeting the many patrons who purchased their produce. Sharon's greatest joy was having children and grandchildren, and loved spending time with them, sharing stories, baking, cooking and canning the produce they grew. Another special bond that Sharon experienced was being a sister and caregiver to her brother Paul for more than twenty years. She loved antiquing and was a dealer at Maryann's Antiques in Manistee. She also had a special devotion to the "Chapel of Divine Mercy" where she gained peace and strength! Sharon was a member of Divine Mercy Parish and attended Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine, where she was active with the St. Mary's Altar Society, a member of the choir, a lector and Eucharistic Minister. She was a former member of the Manistee Kiwanians, Manistee Port City Club and a member of the Manistee Historic Museum. During her working career Sharon was always busy having worked at various places in the county: Rex's Grill, Sawyers Fruit Packing in Bear Lake, Park Dairy Ice Cream Shop, Manistee Community Mental Health, Parkdale Quick Mart and at Maryann's Antiques. Dennis and Sharon commissioned a bust of T.J. Ramsdell in stainless steel, by world renowned artist Marion Owczarski, which they donated to the Ramsdell Theater in honor of their families.

Sharon is survived by her son and daughter in-law; Daryl and Jill Switalski of Manistee, her daughter and son in-law; Rennae and Jon Hansen of Manistee, and her daughter Mary Switalski and her partner Laura Schnitker both of Takoma Park, Maryland, seven grandchildren; Paul Craig, Sherri (Matt) Protasiewicz, Anna Hansen, Jon Hansen, Mallory (Andrew) Kenny and Jessie Switalski and Dennis Switalski, three great grandchildren; Makayla, Aubrey and Ethan Kenny, her sister and brother in-law; Sue and Bill Czarnecki of Manistee, and her four brothers and three sisters in-law; Donald and Loretta Vadeboncoeur, Philip and Delores Vadeboncoeur, James and Ann Vadeboncoeur and Paul Vadeboncoeur all of Manistee. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive her.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 11:00 AM at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee with Reverend Scott Lawler celebrant. Burial will follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery also in Manistee.

Relatives and friends will pray the Evening Vigil Service at the Herbert Funeral Home on Tuesday evening, April 11, 2017 at 8:00 PM, where the family will receive friends from 6:00 to 9:00 PM and on Wednesday morning at the church one hour prior to the funeral Mass at 11:00 AM.

Memorials will be established in Sharon's name for the Eternal Word Television Network and for Hospice of Michigan. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home and at the church on Wednesday morning. **The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.**