

Eleanor L. VanAelst, age 95 of Manistee, Michigan, died Wednesday August 19, 2015 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Michigan surrounded by her family.

She was born on November 19, 1919 in Filer City, daughter of the late Walter and Lila (Marzinski) Janowiak. Eleanor married Lawrence VanAelst on June 19, 1940 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. He preceded her in death on December 29, 1984. During her working career, Eleanor had been employed at the Manistee Garment Factory and did some waitressing at the Hotel Chippewa. She enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. She liked doing cross word puzzles and working on cryptograms, visiting with her family and friends via the telephone, and enjoying her flowers and her violet. She was a member of the Catholic Community of Manistee (Saint Joseph Catholic Church). She is survived by one daughter & son-in-law: Kathy & Jim Skiera of Manistee, MI, four grandchildren; Susan & Greg Miller of Manistee, MI, Scott and Rebecca Skiera of Manistee, MI, Shannon and Joe Robertson of Traverse City, MI, and Samantha and Everett McLinden of Manistee, MI, ten great- grandchildren, three step-great grandchildren and two step great-great grandchildren. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive her.

She was preceded in death in addition to her parents and husband by a granddaughter Stacey Skiera, her sister and brother in-law, Doris and Clarence "Mickey" Miller and by her brother and sister in-law, Alvin and Leona Janowiak.

Mass from the order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated on Monday, August 24, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee with Reverend Richard Schaeffer celebrant. Interment will follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery also in Manistee. Relatives and friends will pray the Evening Vigil Service Sunday evening, August 23, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee where the family will receive them on Sunday evening from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and on Monday morning from 10:00 a.m. until the time of leaving for the church at 10:40 a.m.

Memorials will be established in Eleanor's name for Manistee Catholic Central Schools and for Saint Joseph Catholic Church. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

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