



Joan B. Knauf

August 13, 1936 - December 3, 2023

Joan Berdine Knauf, 87, of Kalkaska left this earth on December 3, 2023 surrounded by her family at home. She was born in Pontiac, MI on August 13, 1936 to Charles and June Wilfong. Joan raised her family in Imlay City, MI. She was always a “working” mom. Co-owner of Imlay City Tire Co. for several years and then moved to northern Michigan in the 1980’s where she owned and operated the Kalkaska Inn Motel. She ended her working career with Silicone Specialties in Elk Rapids. Joan got the most joy out of life by spending time with her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed many years living on Clam Lake boating and fishing and bar-b-ques with the family. It wasn’t until later in life that Joan connected with her childhood sweetheart, the love of her life, James Dean. It brought much joy and happiness to them both and was a beautiful thing to witness. Although he preceded her in death, he was always in her thoughts and heart. She is survived by her children Jeffrey (Norma) Wiggins, Cindy (Marv) Coy, and Joel Wiggins; 16 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren. Joan was preceded in death by her parents and siblings Robert Wilfong and Janet Inscho. Cremation has taken place and a private Celebration of Life will be held with her family. Memorials may be directed to the Alzheimer Association of Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.