



Johanna Smits

April 3, 1921 - August 28, 2011

LUCAS - Johanna Smits, formerly of Lucas, passed away on Sunday, August 28, 2011, at the Brook Assisted Living facility in Cheboygan.

Johanna was born April 3, 1921, the youngest of six, to Rena (Grashuis) and Peter Elenbass in Richland Township, Lucas. Johanna spent much of her youth in Lucas, with a couple of stints in Grand Rapids.

She married Edward Samuel Smits on November 1, 1940. They were the first couple married in the new Rehobeth Reformed Church of that time in Lucas. He preceded her in death in September of 2005.

Johanna was a devoted homemaker, wife and mother. She very much enjoyed her home, family and her church.

Some of her hobbies included gardening, golfing, baking and crocheting. She crocheted afghans for all of her grandchildren. She was a member of the Rehoboth Reformed Church in Lucas.

Survivors include one sister, Christena Taylor, of Cadillac; one son, Michael (Cindy) Smits, of Upland, Calif.; two daughters, Barbara (Bud) Darnell of Cheboygan and Beth (Cleo) Franco of Mason; daughter-in-law, Pam Smits of Cadillac; grandchildren, Darcy (Carl) Traynor of Lake Forest, Ill., Kathleen

(Rob) Garland of Suwannee, Ga., Laurin (Julie) Darnell of San Antonio, Texas, Chad (Amanda) Smits of Wyoming, Rachel (Taylor) Williams of Katy, Texas, Rena Franco of Royal Oak and Chrissy Franco of Philadelphia, Pa.; seven great-grandsons and one great-grand daughter.

Johanna was preceded in death by her parents; one son, Edward Daniel Smits; two brothers, Ivan and Gerrit Elenbaas; two sisters, Marie Bazuin and Kate Lucas; a nephew, Dean Lucas; and a niece, Pearl Tacoma.

The funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2011 at Rehobeth Reformed Church in Lucas, with Rev. Dave Sterk officiating. Burial will take place at Lucas Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Johanna's name may be directed to Rehobeth Reformed Church.

Arrangements were made by the Burkholder Funeral Home in McBain. A guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

LW

“ *Beth I'm sorry to hear of the passing of your mother. You and your family will be in my prayers. Take care of yourself.* ”

Lena Wise - September 08, 2011 at 06:07 AM

CP

“ *I miss your mother at the Brook.* ”

Carol Peet - September 07, 2011 at 09:09 PM

BH

“ *I was so sorry to hear of the loss of you mother Beth. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sad time.* ”

Barbara Hubbuch - September 07, 2011 at 04:55 PM

KJ

“ *Sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. My prayers are with you and your family.* ”

Kenneth Jones - September 07, 2011 at 03:56 PM

TR

“ *Very Sorry to hear about the passing of your mom. Looks like she had a long life with a great family. God Bless you and your family.* ”

Treasa Rockwell - September 07, 2011 at 03:42 PM

SL

“ *Our prayers are with you and your family.* ”

Steve and Su Loveland - September 07, 2011 at 03:03 PM

RC

“ *My prayers are with you and your family God Bless.*

Rodrick Cook - September 07, 2011 at 02:42 PM

JN

“ *Sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. I lost my mother in 2008 at the age of 95 after a fall down her steps. She was still so active and I miss her yet, which you will also miss your Mom. I remember times at your white house in Lucas and remember your Mom always doing laundry or cleaning. Keep the good memories of a precious Mother.*

Janice (Vander Vlught) Neitzel - September 07, 2011 at 10:34 AM

CS

“ *My prayers are with your family that God will help you through this trying time.*

Cathy Scott-Lynch - September 06, 2011 at 11:39 AM

PS

“ *You are in our thoughts and prayers in the loss of your mother. We will always cherish our memories of "*
Aunt Jo"

*Paul and Kathy Smits
Homosassa, Fl*

Paul and Kathy Smits - August 31, 2011 at 07:58 PM