

Charles Robert Gardner, 66

Charles Robert Gardner, 66, of East Jordan, died Thursday, Nov. 26, 2009, in the presence of family, at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital in Petoskey.

He was born on July 26, 1943, in Eldorado, Mich., the son of Charlie and Veronica (Cove) Williams.

On Nov. 28, 1970, in Grand Rapids, he married Ruth Ann Ryan.

Charles worked as a pattern changer for the East Jordan Iron Works for 43 years and retired in 2006.

In his leisure time, he enjoyed camping, building ship models and watching TV. An avid curator of knick-knacks, he loved his collection of coats, hats, camping gear and, of course, his model ships.

He is survived by two daughters, Shellie (Jay) Bavers of East Jordan and Traci Gardner of Chicago, Ill.; five grandchildren, Barton (Dr. Lucie) Bavers of Levering, David Bavers of Ann Arbor, Kevin Bavers of Traverse

City, Billy Bavers of East Jordan and Beth (Pat Ecker) Bavers of East Jordan; four great-grandchildren, Alex and Phillip Bavers of Levering and Melisa and Naomi Ecker of East Jordan; one brother, Bill Gardner of East Jordan; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Ann Gardner, on Oct. 6, 1999; his parents, Charlie and Veronica Williams; and one sister, Pat Fyan.

The funeral service took place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 29, at the Penzien Funeral Homes Inc. in East Jordan. The Rev. Jim L. Jordan Sr. of the Lighthouse Missionary Church officiated. Interment was in Sunset Hill Cemetery in East Jordan. The family received friends from noon until the time of service on Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be given to the American Red Cross, 735 S. Garfield Ave., Traverse City, Mich. 49686.