

aries

Mercer H. Carey, 80

Mercer H. Carey, 80, of East Jordan, passed on peacefully with his family surrounding him on Saturday, Jan. 5, 2002, at his son's home in East Jordan.

Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at the Penzien Funeral Home, Inc., in East Jordan. Elder Merle Joles of the Community of Christ Church in Gaylord and elder Jerry Dean of the Community of Christ Church in East Jordan will officiate. Interment will be in Sunset Hill Cemetery, East Jordan.

He was born April 10, 1921, in Atlanta, Mich., the son of Leon A. and Esther G. (Chapman) Carey. He grew up on the family farm in Atlanta and graduated from Atlanta High School in 1940.

In 1942, he moved to East Jordan to work at the East Jordan Iron Works.

In October of 1942, Mercer joined the U.S. Army and served in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

On June 21, 1944, he married Bernice Olson in East Jordan. After recovering from his wartime wounds, he and his wife came to East Jordan in 1946.

In August of 1947, he began his 30 years as school custodian for the East Jordan Public Schools and retired in 1977.

From 1977 to 1984, Mercer worked for Northwestern State Bank in East Jordan, now known as Huntington Bank, as a bank courier and gardener.

Mercer was an elder for the Community of Christ Church in East Jordan, previously known as Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

He was a member of the City of East Jordan Elm Pointe Commis-

sion and the Portside Historical Society. He was a life member of the Disabled American Veterans, Military Order of Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars and 96th Infantry Division.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was an avid photographer. Mercer genuinely enjoyed and was interested in all people.

Mercer said, "I'm 80 years old! I've had a good life. I've served God, my country and my fellow man. I have no regrets!"

Mercer is survived by his wife, Bernice Carey, of East Jordan; five children, Donna (Dave) Drenth, Mercer "Bud" (Ginny) Carey, George M. (Mary Jane) Carey, Marty (Debbie) Carey, all of East Jordan, and Darlene (Larry) Haywood of Cedar Creek, Texas; 17 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; three brothers, Gates (Minnie) Carey of Laguna Hills, Calif., his twin, Maurice (Onalee) Carey of Atlanta, and Dwight (Bertie) Carey of Bay City; two sisters, Naomi Shepard of East Jordan and Jeanette (Harold) Grove of Bay City; several nieces and nephews and scores of dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; one infant son, Edward Carey; one great-granddaughter, Ashlee Carey; and one daughter-in-law, Sue Carey.

The family will receive friends from 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, and from noon until the time of service on Wednesday, Jan. 9, at the Penzien Funeral Homes, Inc., in East Jordan. A memory sharing service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the funeral home.

Memorials may be given to Community of Christ Church, Camp Quality or Charlevoix County Hospice.