

OBITUARIES

AGNES E. GRIMES
 Agnes Elizabeth Grimes, 89, of Farmington Hills died Jan. 4 at Arbor Hospice in Ann Arbor. She is survived by daughter, Elaine Thibodeau; brothers, Leo and Roy Anstead; sisters, Mary Stanton, Margaret Hamilton and Fay Ziegler; granddaughter, Claudia; and great-grandson, Alexander.

Funeral services were held Jan. 5 at St. Gerald Catholic Church in Farmington with the Rev. Gerald McEnhill officiating. Memorial contributions may be sent to Arbor Hospice or Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament.

JOHN W. STRUK SR.
 John Walter Struk Sr., 81, of Livonia died Jan. 3 at Angola Hospice in Livonia.

Mr. Struk was an engineer for General Motors and a U.S. Navy veteran. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Farmington, Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi and Commandary of Northville. He also enjoyed traveling and hockey.

He is survived by wife, Bette Mae; sons, John Jr. and Robert (Kathy); sister, Marie Trick; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held 11:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 8, at Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi with the Rev. E. Neil Hunt officiating. Arrangements were made by Thayer-

Rock Funeral Home in Farmington. Memorial contributions may be sent to Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21365 Meadowbrook Road, Novi 48375.

ENSIO E. HANEL
 Ensio E. Hanel, 90, of Farmington died Dec. 28 at Betsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. Mr. Hanel worked for the U.S. post office and was a World War II Navy veteran. He was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

He is survived by wife, Mamie; brothers, Wiljo and George Hanel and Karl and Bernard Hanhlanmm; sister, Laura Eddy; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Jan. 2 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills with the Rev. Jonathan Borggren officiating. Memorial contributions may be sent to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills.

EARL C. WILLHOFF
 Earl Curtis Willhoff, 72, of Farmington Hills died Dec. 30. He is survived by wife, Norma; children, Kerry Willhoff, Daniel (Karen), Bruce (Julia), Jeff (Linda Sue) Charlie and Kenneth; stepchildren, Nancy Hansel, Mark Jamousek and Terry Jamousek; and 12 grand-

children. Funeral services were held Jan. 3 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills with the Rev. Ben Bonecheck, the Rev. Kathy Croff and the Rev. Robert Bagh officiating. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Music Fund at Nardin Park United Methodist Church or Angela Hospice.

ESTHER H. CALAK
 Esther H. Oblak, 79, of Novi died Jan. 4 at Huron Valley Hospice.

Mrs. Oblak worked for J.L. Hudson's for 25 years and enjoyed gardening and shopping.

She is survived by husband, Matthew; sons, Rudy (Linda) and Matthew Jr. (Kim); daughters, Donna (Mickey) Long, Cheryl (Ralph) McGuigan and Jano (Ken) Lenz; sister, Sylvia Saarinen; 16 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. this morning, Jan. 7, at St. Priscilla Catholic Church in Livonia with the Rev. Raymond Bucon officiating. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Karmanos Cancer Institute, 18831 W. 12 Mile, Lathrup Village 48076.

Behind the bench



Sworn in: Judge Marla Parker takes the oath from 47th District Court colleague Judge Fred Harris recently. She is starting her second term after running unopposed in the November election.

Former ND grid player carried Irish in his heart

BY TIM SMITH
 STAFF WRITER
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George Tobin wore his Irish heart on his sleeve, living life "to the fullest," all while pulling for Notre Dame in enemy Wolverine territory.

The Farmington Hills resident, who was a feisty lineman on two Notre Dame football championships, died Saturday at age 77 following a bout with cancer.

Tobin was pure Irish, "to the core," said longtime friend and Notre Dame alumnus John Anhut.

"He hated Michigan (U-M) with a passion," continued Anhut. "I hate Michigan, too."

Asked how someone who bled Notre Dame green could happily exist near U-M, Anhut spoke from experience and said "You just roll with the punches."

Anhut, a Farmington Hills resident, called Tobin "a great friend of mine. I knew him at Notre Dame and I knew him here. He was probably the toughest little guard who ever played at Notre Dame. He weighed only 165 or 170, but man, he was tough."

That Notre Dame toughness—as well as a sharp sense of humor—stayed with Tobin after graduating from the university. Tobin went on to a professional career with the New York Giants of the National Football League.

Later, in the late 1940s, he moved to the Detroit area and wound up teaching and coaching at area high schools, such as Holy Redeemer and St. Mary's in Redford Township. He concluded his teaching career in 1984, following a long stint at Detroit's Dossin Elementary School.

In recent years, Anhut said he and Tobin spent some time working together for the Notre Dame Club of Detroit, recruiting high school athletes who might have Irish potential.

Anhut, who said he was moved to tears when he first learned about Tobin's death, visited O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home in Novi on Monday. There, he spoke with Tobin's widow, Geraldine.

"She said he lived life to the fullest, and that he enjoyed everything," Anhut said.

One might add, except the Wolverines, of course.

Services for Tobin were held Tuesday at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington. He will be buried in the Casco Township Cemetery, near the summer cottage where Tobin and his family enjoyed spending time.

Survivors include Tobin's wife of 52 years, Geraldine; daughters Mary Tobin, Geraldine Escott, Joanne Koch and Paula Thiemann; sons Michael, Tim and Mark; and five grandchildren. A sister and brother also are surviving.

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