

obituaries

MARY E. OSTIN

Mrs. Ostin, 66, of Farmington died Jan. 29 in Harper Hospital.

A homemaker, Mrs. Ostin is survived by her husband, Robert; her sons Paul, Michael, Thomas and Richard; daughter Julie; six grandchildren and one sister.

Funeral Mass was held Feb. 1 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington with the Rev. Arthur Jacobi officiating.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

EDNA E. MILLER

Mrs. Miller, 85, of Roseville, died Jan. 30 at St. John Hospital in Detroit.

A retired telephone operator for an automotive company, Mrs. Miller is survived by her niece, Jan Brock, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and friends in the Farmington area.

Services were held Feb. 2 at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington with burial in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

DOROTHY ROBERTSON

Mrs. Robertson, 77, of Livonia, formerly of Farmington, died Jan. 21.

A homemaker, Mrs. Robertson is survived by her husband Paul; sons Jerry, Sheldon and James; daughters

Virginia and Vera; one sister; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held Feb. 4 at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home of Farmington. Burial was in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

MARY J. KUSCHEWSKI

Mrs. Kuschewski, 86, of Mount Clemens, died Jan. 31 at St. Joseph Hos-

pital in Mount Clemens.

Mrs. Kuschewski was a homemaker. Survivors include her stepdaughter Martha; two stepgrandchildren and three great-grandchildren; nieces Bernice Sporer and Mary Brown. Services were held Feb. 2 at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

NELLIE C. TRESSLER

Nellie Tressler, 80, of Oak Hill Nursing Home, formerly of Livonia, died Feb. 6.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Ms. Tressler was a homemaker and is survived by one brother, Charles Gillespie; two nieces, Beverly Deeb and Nancy Madick; and one nephew, Richard Kay. Funeral services were held Feb. 8 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with Pastor W. F. Halboff officiating. Interment was at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Novi.

OLIVE R. KINDER

Olive Kinder, 78, of Southfield, died Feb. 9 at Botsford Hospital.

A resident of Southfield for 45 years, Mrs. Kinder was a homemaker. She is survived by one son, John, and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Feb. 12 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with the Rev. Carl H. Schultz officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

CHARLES (STEVE) BURGE

Mr. Burge, 63, of Dearborn, died Feb. 9 at Oakwood Hospital.

Mr. Burge was a model maker for the automotive industry and a World War II Navy veteran. Survivors include his children, Kathryn, Carole, Craig and Kenneth.

A memorial service was held Feb. 11 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. Burial was in Acacia Park Cemetery in Birmingham.

Flu and aspirin are a risky mix

In the midst of the flu season, important new information has become available about the development, in teens and children with flu, of Reye syndrome, a rare but serious condition that kills 20 to 30 percent of its young victims and leaves many survivors brain damaged.

The new information comes from a U.S. Public Health Service pilot study

of a possible link seen in four earlier state studies between the use of aspirin in treating flu or chicken pox and an increased risk of Reye's syndrome.

The Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences has reviewed the pilot study and found "strong support" for the link.

Although personnel from the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control will continue the study through next winter, the Institute of Medicine advised that the federal government not wait to inform and protect the public.

As a result, Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret M. Heckler has asked manufacturers to remove any recommended use in flu and chicken pox from aspirin-containing products aimed at children and to add a warning to all aspirin-containing products against use for flu and chicken pox in children and teens.

The pilot study looked at the histories of drug treatments and other factors of 29 young people who got Reye's syndrome last year. Use of aspirin for flu or chicken pox symptoms was the common thread shown in 28 of the 29 (whereas ordinarily less than half the young people with flu or chicken pox would be expected to take aspirin).

U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop has said that most childhood illnesses are self-limiting and usually don't require any medication at all. Doctors often suggest that a child with fever simply be made comfortable with cool compresses.

Of course, physicians continue to find aspirin useful and safe for adult, teen and childhood arthritis and other conditions.

Reye's syndrome is a rare condition — a few hundred cases a year. It was named in 1955 for an Australian pathologist who described it as a swelling of the brain, combined with liver malfunction and blood chemistry disorders leading in most cases to death. Improved recognition and early treatment of the disease has helped reduce the death rate, but still about one out of four reported cases are fatal.

It is crucial to take action quickly if Reye's symptoms occur whether or not aspirin or an aspirin-containing prod-

uct has been used. The first sign is generally persistent vomiting. The young person may be sleepy and lethargic, but still responsive. Within half a day, he or she can become disoriented, combative and delirious.

Untreated, the teen-ager or child can go into a coma and die.

Thus, Reye's is a medical emergency. A child with Reye's syndrome symptoms must be taken immediately to a hospital, where blood and body fluids can be monitored and a respirator used if breathing fails. Surgery may be needed, in some cases, to relieve pressure on the swollen brain. Therefore, act promptly if you suspect Reye syndrome.

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