



Warren Jay Cook

September 17, 1919 - July 10, 2007

Warren Jay Cook, 87, passed on July 10, 2007 at his home in Charlotte. He was born September 17, 1919 the fourth of five children of Earl and Beulah Cook. Warren graduated from Traverse City High School at age 16 and farmed until World War II when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps serving in North Africa and Italy; became an engineering officer, finishing with a rank of Major in the 317th Fighter Unit. After the war, he and his wife started a family farm, but left the farm to earn Bachelor's and Master's degrees from MSU in Soil Science. He then started work with MSU Extension in Calhoun County, moving to Oscoda County as County Extension Director. During his time in Mio, he helped institute the Great Lakes Forestry Exposition, and helped establish the Kirtland Warbler as an endangered species. He then moved on to Kalkaska County as County Extension Director and then moved finally to Eaton County, first as Agricultural Agent, and then County Extension Director, where he worked with the development of no-till farming. He retired in 1980 and took up farming fruits and vegetables just outside of Charlotte. He worked with his family, especially with his son Randy to run the farm and had finally retired to advisory status. He had a great love of learning and his family, and was very proud of his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. His humor, his insight and his strong love and support will be sorely missed by his family and community. He survived by his 5 children; Warren Jay Cook, Jr. (Coco) of Kalamazoo, Denise (Ben) Bartlett of Chatham, Randy Cook of Charlotte, Rod (Carol) Cook of Olympia, WA, and Cindy (Bill) Straus of Dewitt;

7 grandchildren Barb (Brian) Dartt DVM of Charlotte, Bridgette (Brent) Voisinet of Laingsburg, Benjamin (Jennifer) Bartlett of Cheboygan, Peter Cook of Kalamazoo, Rachel Cook of Seattle WA, Jay Cook of New York, NY, Davis Straus of Dewitt; and 8 great grandchildren; sisters, Adeline (Burton) Griner of Traverse City and Faye Bradshaw of Traverse City. He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years Hazel Alice (Bush); sisters, Jessie (Wayne) Moore and Elsie (Henry) Wright. Memorial services will be 1:00 p.m. Saturday, July 14, 2007 at Pray Funeral Home with Dr. James Troust officiating. Interment will be at the Grant Township Methodist Church Cemetery. Arrangements by Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.prayfuneral.com