

# The Sheboygan Press

THE SHEBOYGAN PRESS, TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2002

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## Obituary Notices

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### Catherine F. Maersch

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**Catherine F. Maersch**, a resident of the Sheboygan Retirement Home, died Saturday, March 16, 2002. On Dec. 30, 2001 she had a wonderful celebration of her 93rd birthday with her family and friends. Catherine was born in Sheboygan on Dec. 30, 1908, a daughter of the late Alfred and Mary Kraus Steffen. She attended Holy Name School and graduated from Sheboygan High School in 1926. She worked for a time at the old Panzer Lumber Co. On June 12, 1934, she was united in marriage to Fred M. Maersch at Holy Name Church in Sheboygan. Catherine helped her husband in his bookkeeping and tax service until their retirement in 1970. They were residents of the Crystal Lake area for 15 years. Fred preceded her in death on Sept. 13, 1987. She was well-known for her many poems and rhyming verses, which she wrote for various occasions for family and friends. She also enjoyed listening to classical music. Catherine was a member of Holy Name Parish, a member of its choir for many years, a member and past-president of the St. Anne's Society and was a committee member of the 1968 centennial of the parish. She is survived by her five children of whom she was very proud. They are, Philipp (Shirley) of Houston, Texas, James (Faye) of West Bend, Stephen (Judy) of Greendale, Mary (Donald) Kullmann of Sheboygan, and Margaret (Ed) Hozie of Hamilton, Ohio. She also is survived by six grandsons, five granddaughters, eight great-granddaughters and four great-grandsons. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son, Paul; an infant granddaughter, Mary Catherine Kullmann; two brothers, Rudolph and Hubert Steffen; and two sisters, Marie Schnell and Lorraine Quast Rappel. At the end, Catherine said, I had a good life. There are no regrets. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Holy Name Catholic Church on Wednesday, March 20 at NOON with the Rev. James Connell, pastor, officiating. Friends may call at the church on Wednesday from 11 a.m. until the time of the Mass. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery. Memorials to Holy Name Church or the Sheboygan Retirement Home are appreciated. The Novak-Ramm-Ziegler Funeral Home is serving the family.

Before I got down on my knees  
To scrub and wax the floors  
I double checked to see that  
I had locked both entrance doors  
It was in this loving home  
That you learned your ABC's  
And then you all went on your own  
to earn college degrees  
This home was once a haven  
For neighbor girls and boys  
Cards, basketball, croquet, and drums  
Contributed the noise  
There may have been some little spats  
But never any fights  
And the home became a beacon called  
The house with many lights.  
So heed this final message  
Which rings out clear and true  
Your Father and your Mother  
Were always proud of you.  
- Catherine Maersch  
1999

MY FIRST SONNET

For Grandma Maersch  
For everything in life that has its day,  
She wrote a poem that made us laugh and smile.  
A song for us that made the world worthwhile  
And, rhyming lines, brought words to life that way.  
I searched for words to send her on her way;  
Something to delight and to beguile;  
I sat and thought and pondered for awhile,  
Then wrote for you what Grandma would want to say:  
Approaching God, my blissful heart still sings  
To see my family, whom I love so dear,  
As you join hands and set your sorrows free.  
For I have taken flight on joyous wings,  
And, drifting off, the song I dream to hear  
Is all my children laughing, as they remember me.  
- Kristin Kullmann