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Barbara Jane Venter, 72, died Thursday in Adrian. She was born Sept. 28, 1938, in Detroit to Frank and Viola Mendes. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Orville. Barbara recently moved back to Michigan from Colorado. She had worked for Ford Motor Co. and in optics and truckstop management. She was a long-distance truck driver and co-owner with her husband, Nelson "Sonny" Venter, hauling swinging meat out of Colorado to most of the New York and New England markets. She is survived by her husband; a sister, Paris (Neil) Baggett of Stewart, Tenn.; a son, Brent (Robene) Powell of Onsted, Mich.; a daughter, Dawn M. (Jose) Espino of Centerville, Tenn.; granddaughters Brittny Powell of Onsted and Emily (Brian) Brown of Tennessee; sister-in-law Beverly (Tim) Moore of Milwaukee; many other relatives including cousin Susan Finerty of Manchester, Mich.; life friends Dale Fender and Kevin Campbell of Greeley, Colo., Mary and Carter Ray of Tecumseh, Mich., Joel and Debbie Kugler of Hudson, Mich., Manny and Micra Hernandez of Thornton, Colo., and numerous others across the U.S. No services are planned. Arrangements with J. Gilbert Purse Funeral Home, Adrian, MI. PurseFuneralHome.com

Adrian Chapel

2959 N. Adrian Hwy. (M-52)
Adrian, MI 49221
1-517-265-2300
Manager / Gary Purse

When Calling Long Distance,
Please use our 800 number

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Tecumseh Chapel

210 W. Pottawatamie St.
Tecumseh, MI 49286
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