



Frank Kostelac

December 5, 1913 - July 31, 2006

Frank A. Kostelac, a lifelong resident of Fairhope, died Monday morning, July 31, 2006 after nearly 93 years of life. Mr. Kostelac was a longstanding employee of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel, where he maintained convivial relationships with his fellow workers. His avocation and true calling, music, sustained him spiritually throughout his long life. As a founding member of the Croatian folk orchestra, The Blue Danube, he entertained hundreds of people in the tri-state area at various events and venues, creating an avid following. He recorded several traditional Croatian favorites with his fellow band members and later also went on to play with other folk and popular bands. Mr. Kostelac was preceded in death by his beloved wife of sixty-four years, Helen Bezego Kostelac, in 1999; and his first child, Franklin Dennis, in 1951. He was the devoted father of three surviving children, Rosemary Zir, of Sherborn, Mass., Dianna Kostelac Rosen, of Mendham, NJ, and Thomas J. Kostelac, of Fayette City, along with thier respective spouses, Dr. Leonard Zir, Daniel I Rosen and Debra Kostelac. Among his five grandchildren, of whom he was most enamored and proud, was his eldest, Heather D. Zir, who passed from this life in 2004. Surviving grandchildren are Hilary Zir Hearty, along with her husband Alan Hearty, and Lindsay Zir, both of Los Angeles, CA, Elizabeth Kostelac of New York, and Sarah Kostelac, a student at the University of Pittsubrgh. Family and friends will be received at the FERGUSON FUNERAL HOME, INC. and CREMATION SERVICE, a Golden Rule Member Firm, 700 Broad Avenue, Belle Vernon, 724-929-5300, on Wednesday, August 2 in the

afternoon and evening from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9. Prayers will be offered in the funeral home Thursday, August 3, at 10:30 AM, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11 AM in Holy Spirit Church, Fayette City. Interment will follow in Belle Vernon Cemetery.