

Mary Parkinson is remembered by current and former village hall officials as being a hard worker and a caring person — an outstanding woman.

Mrs. Parkinson died on Feb. 27 at the age of 91. She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Rosalie Leschke of Birmingham, and Mrs. Helen Brenizer of New Mexico, as well as several nieces and nephews.

She was the clerk of the Village of Lake Orion for 28 years, retiring in 1971.

"She was one super lady," said Ellen Carlson, who with her husband, Martin, owned the *Review* while Parkinson was clerk. "She did so much work, staying late, after hours."

According to current village clerk, Mary Simmons, the village was run by general law during those years, requiring that the clerk be elected.

"Mary was a very key figure in the village government," Simmons said. "She was in charge of a lot of the administration of the village, as well as attending council meetings."

Simmons said during those years the Justice of the Peace was located in the village hall, as was a formal courtroom, and that Mrs. Parkinson handled the related paperwork.

Neal Leonard, who was then Police Chief, said Mrs. Parkinson also answered all police calls and operated the radio for the police department.

"She was the greatest person I have ever met," he said.

3-4-87

Funeral services for Mrs. Parkinson were Monday, March 2, from the Lake Orion Chapel, Sparks-Griffin Funeral Home. Rev. Richard Peacock of the Lake Orion United Methodist Church officiated. Interment was at Lakeview Cemetery.