

**Wilber William Eggert
(January 7, 1926 – August 9, 2011)**

Wilbur William Eggert, 85, of Port Hope, went to be with his Lord and Savior on August 9th, 2011.

He was born January 7, 1926 in Port Hope to the late Theodore and Helene (Schultz) Eggert. He attended St. John's Lutheran School and Port Hope Community School.



In May, 1944 he entered the Army and was assigned to the 66th Infantry Division for European duty. On the night of Christmas Eve, 1944, Wilbur was in England and was scheduled to board the S.S. Leopoldville to cross the English Channel. But at the last minute, due to an overloaded vessel and disorganized boarding, Wilbur was not allowed to board the ship and instead was put on a second ship the SS Cheshire. These two troop carriers left harbor and were accompanied by four escort destroyers. However, five miles from their destination in France, the Leopoldville was struck by a torpedo fired by a German submarine. A couple hundred troops were killed in the initial blast. Although the ship sank slowly, a combination of communication problems, delays, oversights and other errors, resulted in the death of nearly a thousand infantrymen. The ship that Wilbur was on made it safely and Wilbur went on to fight in the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. Wilbur was discharged from the Army on June 5, 1946.

On June 5, 1948 he married Betty Weiss also of Port Hope. Wilbur and Betty relocated to Warren, Michigan where Wilbur began his career as a truck driver, later becoming an independent driver. After retirement they moved back to the Port Hope area. Betty preceded him in death on August 9, 1992. They did not have any children.

Wilbur was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Port Hope where he had served as an usher for many years and VFW Post 2358 in Roseville, Michigan.

Wilbur is survived by four brothers: Arnold Eggert and Merl Eggert (Patsy) of Port Hope, Erwin Eggert (Lori) of Bad Axe, Robert Eggert (Mary Ann) of Caro, sister-in-law Phyllis Haggerty of Roseville, brother-in-law Kenneth Weiss of Ubly and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death was a sister, Alma Engel, sister-in-laws Helen Schave, Shelva Finkel, Bernice Eggert, Luella Eggert, brother-in-laws Walton Engel, Arnold Schave, Richard Haggerty, Alvin Finkel.

Funeral services will be conducted on Friday, August 12th at 2 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church in Port Hope. The Rev. Greg Eilers will officiate. Burial will take place with military graveside services at Lakeview Cemetery in Port Hope.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 PM on Thursday, August 11th at MacAlpine Funeral Home, Bad Axe and Friday from noon to 2 PM at the church.

Memorials may be offered to St. John's Lutheran Church or the Family Discretionary Fund.