

Kretzschmer, LeRoy

LeRoy H. Kretzschmer, 69, life long Caseville area farmer, died Sunday morning, April 25, 2004, at St. Mary's Medical Center, Saginaw. He was born May 11, 1934 at the home of his parents, the late Wesley and Pearl (Geiger) Kretzschmer, in McKinley Township. LeRoy joined the U.S. Army in 1956. He served as a paratrooper and received a Honorable discharge in 1958. On August 16, 1958, he was united in marriage to Sophie Jean Sorrell in Angier, North Carolina and they made their home in Caseville Township. Jeannie preceded him in death on July 26, 1991. On July 20, 2002, he was united in marriage to Gloria J. (Kopah) Smith in Caseville. He farmed with his family all his life, never really retiring. He always enjoyed working in the soil and raising animals of all kinds, including incubating pheasant eggs and raising the birds for release. His garden was also important to him, and he already had it plowed for spring planting. LeRoy was a member of Caseville United Methodist Church, Caseville Eagles and the Pheasant Club. Though not a hunter, he loved to shine deer, something he and Gloria did almost every night. He is survived by his wife, Gloria; his son, Tony Kretzschmer and his wife, Renita, of Caseville; his daughter, June Marie Kretzschmer, of Ann Arbor and Gela May and her husband, Randy, of Oxford; two grandchildren, Wesley and Shana Kretzschmer; four step-sons, Todd Smith and his special friend, Linda Clark, of Bay City, Troy Smith and his wife, Tina, of Owendale, Terry Smith and his wife, Starr, of Caseville, Jeff Smith and his wife, Jill, of Pigeon; six step-grandchildren, Steven, Jonathon, Rachel, Scott, Michael, and Jared; three brothers, Harold Kretzschmer, of Pigeon, Dale Kretzschmer and his wife, Lorraine, and Leon Kretzschmer and his wife, Donna, all of Caseville; four sisters, Ruth Damm and her husband, Fritz, of Bay Port, Joyce Dietzel and her husband, Eldon, of Owendale, Carol Ruzala and her husband, Ray, of Midland, and Janet Kretzschmer, of Caseville. The funeral service will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2004, at the Caseville United Methodist Church. Visitation will be from 7 to 9 p.m. today and from 2 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday at Champagne Funeral Chapel, Caseville, and after 10 a.m. on Thursday at the church. Memorials may be given to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Friends may sign the guest book at www.CFCcaseville.com.