

Pearl, Thad L.

Thad L. Pearl, 86, of Big Rapids and formerly of Dearborn, died Friday, December 3, 2004, at his residence. He was born March 18, 1918, the son of Thaddeus and Edith (Stafford) Pearl. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theatre aboard the destroyer escort USS Corbesier. Following his discharge, he moved to the Detroit area where he was an insurance agent for the John Hancock Life Insurance Company for more than 25 years. Thad was a former member of the First United Methodist Church in Dearborn. He enjoyed various crafts, especially woodworking and stained glass work. He was an accomplished carpenter as well. In 1947, he married Verna Putikka, who preceded him in death in 1988. Surviving are three daughters, Karen Bailey and her husband, Bruce, of Big Rapids, Debbie Taulbee and her husband, Don, of Bad Axe, and Donna Olinzock and her husband, Tom, of Taylor; and five grandchildren, Sarah and Matthew Bailey, Anna Ferrell and her husband, Jon, and Carolyn and Michael Taulbee. The funeral service was conducted on Sunday, December 5, 2004, in Big Rapids. Entombment will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, December 12, 2004, at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Memorial contributions in Thad's name may be made to the Mecosta County General Hospital Cardiac Rehab Unit, 405 Winter, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307.