

Bottke Jr., Ernest A.

Ernest A. Bottke Jr., 91, of Kinde and formerly of Sebewaing, died Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009 at Scheurer Hospital in Pigeon, following a lengthy illness.

He was born May 22, 1918 in Washington, D.C., son of the late Ernest A. and Louise (Weigel) Bottke Sr.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in forestry from Michigan State University.

During World War II, he managed a Firestone rubber plantation in Liberia West Africa for the war effort for 11 years.

Ernest was united in marriage to Estelle Lelonek on July 10, 1955 in Pinckney. She preceded him in death on Aug. 20, 2004.

He was employed by the State of Michigan as a state park manager in Brighton for 30 years, before retiring in 1980 and moving from Brighton to Sebewaing.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed boating and anything outdoors.

Surviving are two sons, Ernest A. Bottke III, of Sebewaing, and Kurtis B. Bottke, of Kinde; stepson, Harry J. Buccilli, of Anchorage, Ala.; one granddaughter; two great-grandchildren; and one sister, Josephine Boos, of Breeley, Colo.

He was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, Edward Boos.

As per Ernest's wishes, there will be no service or visitation.

Burial will take place in Memorial Park Cemetery in Sebewaing.

Arrangements are being handled by the Dinkel-Juengel Funeral Home in Sebewaing.