

Kieft, Richard L.

Richard L. "Dick" Kieft, 79, of Bay Port, died Thursday, May 24, 2007, at the Sunrise Assisted Living Center in Grosse Pointe Woods following a six-year illness. He was born April 12, 1928 in Ionia, son of the late Claude J. and Mildred (Lind) Kieft. He was united in marriage to Dorothy E. Doerfner on July 1, 1950 in Saginaw. She preceded him in death on November 21, 2002. Richard was a 1946 graduate from Arthur Hill High School in Saginaw. He received his mechanical engineering degree from the University of Michigan and his master's degree from Wayne State University. He was employed as a superintendent for General Motors in Pontiac for many years before his retirement. He enjoyed boating and fishing and woodworking. Surviving are two daughters, one son and their spouses, Julia H. Kieft, of Bay Port, Sharon E. and Cary Kaiser, of St. Clair Shores, Richard and Lin Kieft, of Mesa, Arizona; three grandchildren, Jeffrey and Veronica Jostock, Jeremy Blankenship, Gerald Joseph Kaiser; two great grandchildren, Savannah and Justin Jostock; and one sister, Mary Lou and Richard Hoek, of Grand Rapids; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by one son, Brian Alan Kieft, in 2004. A funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 2, 2007, at the Dinkel-Juengel Funeral Home in Sebewaing. The Rev. William Wright will officiate. Cremation will follow at Sunset Valley Crematory in Bay City with interment at a later date in the Old Bay Port Cemetery in Bay Port. Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. until the time of the service on Saturday at the funeral home in Sebewaing. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Society.