

Gruber Jr., Joseph

Joseph J. Gruber, Jr., 85, of Cass City, passed away on Thursday, May 27, 2004, at his home. Joe was born September 12, 1918 in Iron City, Tennessee, the son of Joseph and Susie (McDow) Gruber. On May 26, 1999, he married Evelyn. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, was a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps, a life member of both the VFW Post No. 3644 and D.A.V., the Thumb Engine Club, and enjoyed collecting old records, blue grass and country music, and riding by the lake. He worked for 17 years for the Village of Cass City doing small engine repair. Joe is survived by his wife, Evelyn; children, Linda Hagerl and her husband, Clarence, of Freeland, Barbara Merchant and her husband, Joe, of Cass City, Michael Zmierski and his wife, Deb, of Cass City, Mark Zmierski and his wife, Becky, of Caro, Angela Noble and her husband, Craig, of Charleston, South Carolina, Teresa Enos and her husband, John, of Elk City, Idaho, and Deanne Brown and her husband, Chuck, of Midland; 17 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; brothers, John and his wife, Velma, of Dothan, Alabama, Benjamin, of Cass City; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Agnes Theresa, on December 20, 1993, and by three sisters and a brother. Joe will lie in state from 10 a.m. until the time of service at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, at Novesta Church of Christ in Cass City, with Chuck Emmert officiating. Burial will be in the Elkland Township Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. on Monday at Thabet Funeral Home in Cass City. Memorials may be made to Heartland Hospice.