

**Stapleton, Leroy P.**

Leroy Patrick Stapleton, 81, of Gagetown, passed away Monday, August 7, 2006, at his home. Born to Patrick and Margaret (Kastner) Stapleton at the family home in Gagetown on September 11, 1924, Leroy graduated in 1943 from Gagetown High School. He served with the United States Navy as a petty officer carpenter's mate during both World War II and the Korean Conflict, where he crossed the equator as well as the Panama Canal. On May 4, 1957, he was united in marriage to Eleanore Fournier at St. Agatha Catholic Church in Gagetown. She preceded him in death on May 2, 1999. Leroy began building at age 15 and was a self-employed licensed builder in the construction business from 1963 until his retirement in 1997. He was a lifetime member of the VFW Pigeon Post No. 2236, a member of the Knights of Columbus West Huron Centennial Council No. 8042 and a former member of the Gagetown Village Council. He was a member of the St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church in Pigeon, where he served on the Parish Council and was caretaker for many years. He is survived by a daughter, Jane L. Stapleton, of Gagetown; a son, James P. Stapleton, of Gagetown; a sister-in-law, Isabelle Fournier, of Gagetown; and several cousins. He also leaves behind his special tomcat friend, Fluffy. He was preceded in death by an infant son, Michael. A Funeral Mass will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Thursday, August 10, 2006, at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church in Pigeon, with Fr. John Weis and Sister Marcia Andrews, I.H.M., officiating. Burial will be in the St. Agatha Cemetery. The wake service will be at 5 p.m. today and the Knights of Columbus Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Both services will be at the Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home in Pigeon. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home and at 10 a.m. on Thursday at the church. Memorials may be directed to Heartland Hospice.