

### **Elston, Gerald J.**

Gerald J. Elston, 68, of Unionville, died Tuesday evening, January 3, 2006, at his home following a nine-month illness. He was born August 19, 1937 in Sebewaing Township, son of the late Walter and Luella (Sting) Elston. He was united in marriage to Ruth M. Baur on October 11, 1958 in New Salem Lutheran Church in Sebewaing. Gerald had been employed at Defoe Shipbuilding in Bay City and later for American Brownhoist and then Tower Automotive in Sebewaing for 17 years before retiring in 2002. He also farmed in the Sebewaing-Unionville area for many years. He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Sebewaing, had been president of A.A.L. for 25 years; a 4-H leader for 25 years, and had served on the Sebewaing Township Board of Review. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather and especially enjoyed being with his family. Surviving are his wife, Ruth; one son, three daughters and their spouses, Kevin (Cindy) Elston, of Joshua, Texas, Cynthia (Dennis) Engelhard, of Unionville, Barbara (Steve) Prah, of Greenville, Tamara (Todd) Lutz, of Owendale; 11 grandchildren, Jenny McBride, Matthew, Brandon Elston, Marissa, Nathan and Kayla Engelhard, Anna, Chelsea and Zachary Prah, Dylan and Kendall Lutz; two step-grandchildren, Becky and Candy; also one great-granddaughter, Andrea Elston; one sister, two brothers and their spouses, Sheila (David) Fuerst, Doug (Sally) Elston, all of Sebewaing, Roger (Patricia) Elston, of Pigeon; and several nieces and nephews. The funeral service will take place at 1 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2006, at Immanuel Lutheran Church. The Rev. Daniel Hahn will officiate with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. today at the Dinkel-Juengel Funeral Home in Sebewaing and he will lie in state from noon until the time of the service on Friday at the church. Memorials may be made to Christ the King Lutheran School or Immanuel Lutheran Church.