

## **Sommerfeld, Loren**

Loren Conrad Sommerfeld of Schoolcraft and formerly of Bad Axe, died on Tuesday, March 20, 2001, after a short illness. Loren's life began on Nov. 7, 1935, in Bloomington, Ill. He was the son of Clarence and Selma Sommerfeld. He graduated from Bad Axe High School in 1953 and joined the United States Navy, serving on the U.S.S. Basilone. After his discharge in 1955, he attended Northeastern School of Commerce and received a diploma in 1957. Loren married Joyce Elaine Howard on Aug. 27, 1960, and they had three sons, Jeffrey, Troy and Lance. The start of Loren's business career began in 1969 when he purchased Brookhaven Care Facility in Kalamazoo. In 1989, Loren sold Brookhaven and pursued various interests in real estate. Loren retired in 1992 after a successful business career to enjoy life on Sugar Loaf Lake. Loren was actively involved in Portage Rocket football for 12 years. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed organizing the many fishing trips he took to Canada with his family and friends. From first ice until last ice, Loren could be found fishing on Sugar Loaf Lake. In warm weather, Loren devoted much of his time to improving his lake property. Over the years, his hard work changed a once mosquito-infested swamp into beautiful property of which he could be proud. Surviving are Loren's mother, Selma, of Clearwater, Fla.; his children, Jeff Sommerfeld and his wife, Pam, Lance Sommerfeld and his wife, Kathy, of Schoolcraft, and Troy Sommerfeld and his fiancée, Marni, of Texas Township; his sons' mother, Joyce Sommerfeld of Portage; his brothers, Owen and his wife, Deanna, of Lake Ann, and Lynn and his wife, Kay, of Grand Rapids; four grandchildren, Meagan Rae, Tanner Scott, Alexis Marie and Logan Lynn; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Clarence, on April 23, 1988. There will be a graveside service at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2001, at Schoolcraft Cemetery for burial of cremains. Visitation is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday at the Avink Funeral Home in Schoolcraft. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Salvation Army.