

Dast, Richard L.

Richard L. "Dick" Dast, 82, of Pigeon, passed away Tuesday evening, March 27, 2007, at St. Mary's of Michigan. He was born May 17, 1924 in Bay Port, son of the late Carl and Alice (Jaster) Dast. He was a 1943 graduate of Bay Port High School. During World War II in 1944, he served in the European Theatre under General Patton in the 5th Infantry Division. He was wounded twice in the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded the Purple Heart, Gold Leaf Cluster and Bronze Star for action beyond the call of duty. On May 27, 1946, he was united in marriage to Marian Kleinschmidt Coyle of Plymouth. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2006. Richard worked for the Pigeon Post Office for 39 years. He was a former member of the Scenic Golf and Country Club and a past Lions Club member. For four years he served as mayor of the village of Pigeon and was a past library board member. He also was a faithful member of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church at Berne. He enjoyed all sports including baseball, football, bowling and golfing. Traveling with his wife, Marian, was a priority later in life, especially a trip to Europe revisiting World War II areas. Richard is survived by his wife, Marian; a son, Philip (Karen) Dast, of Sebewaing; two daughters, Patricia Picklo, of Howell, and Suzanne (George) Busse, of Mount Prospect, Illinois; seven grandchildren, Kevin (Amanda) Picklo, Graham Dast, Bryan Dast, Tricia (Steve) Johnson, Lora (Ken) Merley, Rochelle Taves. and Kendrick Taves; three stepgrandchildren, Brent, Emily and Andrew Busse; four great grandchildren; a brother, Robert (Mary) Dast; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Leon Dast. A funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 31, 2007, at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church at Berne with the Rev. James A. Gorsenger, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Mr. Dast's grandsons will serve as pallbearers. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. on Friday at Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon, and at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the church. A veterans' tribute service will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, or the charity of the donor's choice.