Nelmer W. Wright

Nelmer W. Wright, 94, of Pigeon, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2011 at Courtney Manor in Bad Axe.

Born in Paris, Ill. on July 4, 1916, he was the son of Robert Tillman and Bessie Mae (Webster) Wright. He graduated from Pigeon High School in 1936, and on Sept. 2, 1939, he was united in marriage to Verna M. Eichler at the Pigeon Salem E.U.B. Church.

From 1950-1975, Nelmer owned and operated Wrights Menswear with his wife, Verna. He built his own home, completing it in 1956. He enjoyed golf, horseshoes, quilting, gardening and reading, and he retired at age 68 from playing softball with the Salem United Methodist softball team. He was a member of the Salem Church for 70 years.

In addition to his wife, Verna, to whom he had been married for 71 years, he is survived by his children, Welton (Katherine) Wright of Lexington, Ky., Leil Faye (Leon) Elftman of Pinconning, Curtis (Kathy) Wright of Westland, Vivienne (Rex) Merriott of Lansing, and Valerie (Roger) Haley, of Owendale; 13 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters, Donald L. Wright of Reed City, Alberta Woodington of Bradenton, Fla., and Martin M. (Jan) Wright of Prosper, Texas; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a brother, Charles Wright; and sister, Miriam De Mint.

The Funeral Service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 4, 2011 at the Salem United Methodist Church, Pigeon, with the Rev. Gloria Haynes, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Grandlawn Cemetery.

Visitation will be from Noon to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 3. at Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home in Pigeon and from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the church.

Memorials may be directed to Salem United Methodist Church or Courtney Manor.