

**Szczepan "Steve" L. Gradowski**

(December 26, 1925-February 17, 2011)

Szczepan "Steve" L. Gradowski, 85, of Higgins Lake passed away Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011 at Oakmont Parkway in Clinton Township.

He was born Dec. 26, 1925 in Hamtramck, the son of Stanley and Mary (Belkowski) Gradowski.

He married Rita Jean Baetens on May 21, 1966 in Grosse Pointe. She preceded him in death on June 27, 2008.

Steve resided for nine years in Higgins Lake after 30 years in Sebewaing. He also lived in New Baltimore, Roseville, Fair Haven, Detroit and Mt. Clemens. He was a powder metallurgy supervisor for Carmet, retiring in 1991.

He served in the U.S. Army during WW II and attained the rank of Corporal and was a member of the AmVets Post No. 13 at Higgins Lake and the American Legion Post No. 293 in Sebewaing. He was also a life member of the NRA.

He is survived by nephew, Joseph Gradowski of Warren; three nieces, Mellissa Greene of Clinton Township, Mary Pore of East Pointe, Judy Dunn of Chesaning; four step-children, Patricia (Robert) Antonick of Dayton, Ohio, Thomas (Jodie) Rosso of Springboro, Ohio, Louis Rosso of Higgins Lake and Susan (Clark) Chase-Lumley.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rita; brothers, Adam, Joseph, Mitchell and Marion; sisters, Cassie Tomaszewski and Eugenia Heigel.

Funeral service will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly in the spring, with full military honors.

Memorials may be made to Mercy Hospice, 324 Meadows Dr., Grayling, MI 49738.

Walsh Funeral Home in Roscommon is handling the arrangements.