

**Robert Kohler
(April 12, 1927 – June 7, 2011)**

Robert Kohler, 84, lifetime resident and businessman, of Brown City, passed into eternal life on Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

He was born on April 12, 1927 to Jerome and Rosella Kohler. In 1950, he married the love of his life, Norma "Wife" Davis.

Bob began working for North Branch Oil and Gas at the Brown City location in 1949. He purchased the Brown City division in 1957. Since then, he has been involved in the founding of several business ventures in the Thumb Area, including Kohler Oil and Propane.

Bob was a charter member and past president of the Brown City Rotary Club. He also was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Catholic Church and several golf leagues. Over the years, he and Norma hosted three exchange students.

Golfing, hunting, gardening (potatoes), Tiger Baseball and playing cards with friends and family were some of Bob's favorite pastimes. In the past few years, he looked forward to trips to the ranch with family, friends and his beloved dog Buddy. Sunday evening family gatherings were especially important to him. Bob will be sorely missed by his family, his many friends and business associates.

He is survived by his wife, Norma Kohler; seven sons, Brian (Jane), Keith, Ken, Mike (Stacia), Ron (Angie), Gary, Steve (Lee Ann) and one daughter, Pat (Wayne) Whiting; 19 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mary Kohler and Josephine (Leo) Ruhlman.

He was preceded in death by his parents and five brothers, Leo, Jim, John, Ed, and Bernie; one sister, Helen; two grandsons, Joseph Jones and Duane Kohler; two great-grandchildren, Hannah and Hailey Wetter.

A funeral Mass will be conducted at 10 a.m. Friday, June 10, 2011 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Brown City, with The Rev. Thomas Kuehnemund officiating. Eight grandsons will serve as pall bearers. Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

A gathering for family and friends will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Carman Funeral Home in Brown City. A Rosary will be at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Sacred Heart Church Building Fund and United Hospice Service of Marlette.