

**Essenmacher, Richard P.**

Richard "Dick" P. Essenmacher, 84, of Bad Axe passed away Sunday, May 17, 2009 peacefully in his favorite chair after mowing his lawn.

He was born April 7, 1925 in Harbor Beach to the late Joseph and Virginia (Warner)

Essenmacher

Richard was united in marriage to Anna Rutkowski on May 13, 1950 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Parisville.

Dick worked for 33 years at Active Industries. His children, nieces, nephews, and neighbors remember many baseball games at Dick and Ann's house.

After retiring in 1988, he played euchre with his family, collected and fixed lawn mowers, enjoyed gardening and put together puzzles with his wife Anna. He enjoyed walking through the pine trees in their yard, and feeding the fish in their pond. Dick was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Bad Axe and was an usher for many years at Sacred Heart. He even ushered this past Saturday, joking, smiling, and laughing his famous laugh that could be heard from far away.

He is survived by his wife, Anna, after 59 years of marriage; five children, Eugene (Patsy) Essenmacher of Linden, Robert (Jo) Essenmacher of Osseo, Ronald (Deb) Essenmacher of Cleveland, Ohio, Sharon (Stephen) Reynolds of Carmel, Ind., and Patrick (Vicki) Essenmacher of Perry; four granddaughters and one great-grandson.

Dick was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Megan; and six brothers, Earl, George, Maurice, Donald, Warner and Lloyd.

Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bad Axe with Fr. Robert Howe officiating. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday at the MacAlpine Funeral Home, Bad Axe. A rosary will be at 3:30 p.m. by the Daughters of Isabella and a scripture service at 7 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. until time of service on Wednesday at the church. Memorials may be offered to Sacred Heart Catholic Church or the Sacred Heart Food Bank.