

Smithers, John W.

John "Jack" Willis Smithers, 74, a faithful Christian, passed away Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at Covenant Harrison Hospital in Saginaw after a long struggle with health problems. He was born June 7, 1932 in Bad Axe to the late John and Mary Smithers. He was a veteran of the Korean War serving in the Army and was stationed in Fairbanks, Alaska. John also was an employee of General Motors Truck and Bus Plant in Flint retiring after many years of service. On November 2, 1985, he was united in marriage to Marilyn (Brakenberry) Schember in Bad Axe, and they made their home just south of Elkton. In 1991, he started a small business, Country Acres Sales & Service, selling and servicing lawn and garden equipment. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor and amazing personality. John enjoyed fishing, playing cards, collecting classic cars and, of course, mowing the lawn. He also loved spending time with his family and friends. John is truly someone who has touched many people's lives. He will be missed but never forgotten and in the words of a special someone, "we will always love our Grandpa "Jack" and our dad!" Surviving are his wife, Marilyn, of Elkton, and seven children, Sheila Hendricks, of Caledonia, Randy Smithers, of Ubly, Judy (Dave) Pye, of Joshua, Texas, Barb (Jim) Crowell, of Bad Axe, Mary (Chris) Forman, of Ubly, Jeff Smithers, US Air Force, Netherlands, and Tina Smithers, of Sterling Heights; four stepchildren, Mark (Sharon) Schember, of Elkton, Melody (Robert) Harmon, of Elkton, Kurt (Lisa) Schember and Kevin Schember, both of Bad Axe; 13 grandchildren, Jenny, Stacy, Lindey, Jessica, John, Raymond, Brandon, Jackie, Nicole, Nathan, Jeremy, Brittany, and Justen; six stepgrandchildren, Stephanie, Carissa, Brandon, Jarin, Cody and Haley; nine great grandchildren and three great stepgrandchildren. Preceding him in death were two brothers, Howard and Tom, and a great grandson, Nicholas Crowell. A funeral service will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 8, at the Evangelife Assembly of God Church in Bad Axe. The Rev. Glen Smith, pastor, will officiate with military honors and burial to follow at Valley Cemetery, Ubly. Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, June 7, 2007, at the Champagne Funeral Chapel, Elkton, and after 10 a.m. on Friday at the church. Memorials may be directed to his church, the family, or the donor's choice. Those unable to attend may sign the guest book at www.cfcElkton.com.