Richard W. Molinaro 1931 – 1999

Richard William Molinaro, age 67 of Wichita Falls, Texas, passed away Friday, February 26 at Bethania Hospital in Wichita Falls following a long illness.

He was born in Royal Oak on September 10, 1931, the son of the late Anthony and Ester Verne (Johnson) Molinaro. On July 3, 1954 he was united in marriage to Donna Jean Fluegge at St. John Lutheran Church, Berne. She preceded him in death on June 10, 1995.

Mr. Molinaro was a 1954 Central Michigan University graduate. He was a United States Air Force pilot, serving two terms in Viet Nam, and also served as a NATO pilot instructor. Major Molinaro retired from Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, following 22 years of service.

He was a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wichita Falls, Texas.

His survivors include three sons, Richard (Kathy) Molinaro of Houston, Texas, Dean (Linda) Molinaro of Wichita Falls, Texas, and David (Dawn) Molinaro of Granger, Indiana; two daughters, Debra (Robert) Price of Houston, Texas and Deanne (Dana) Emberton of South Carolina; 13 grandchildren: Richard and Erin Molinaro; Leigh, Conner and Katelyn Emberton; Rachel, Robert and Hannah Price; and William, Austin, Alex, Sarah and Jackson Molinaro; a sister, Dolly (George) Wildern of Charlotte; two brothers, Don Molinaro of Camp Bell, Pennsylvania and Robert (JoAnne) Gronlund of Grosse Ile; two sisters-in-law, Leona (Kurt) Ballman of Port Hope and Alma Stahl of Bay Port; a brother-in-law, Herbert (Vida) Fluegge of Owendale; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Dawn.

Funeral Services will be conducted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 5 from the Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon, with Rev. Timothy Loewe, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Linkville, officiating. Burial will be in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, McKinley Township.

Memorials may be made to the National Emphysema Foundation or St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

MEYERSIECK-BUSSEMA FUNERAL HOME