William J. Hartsell, 81, of Deford, died at home with his family by his side Sunday, June 24, 2012.

He was born Feb. 26, 1931 at home in Elkton Township to Roland and Ann (Quinn) Hartsell. He married Thelma May Willer July 5, 1952 in Marlette.

William worked for Gregory Construction Company of Bay City as a commercial construction laborer retiring after more than 30 years. William truly enjoyed hunting with gun and bow and he enjoyed ice fishing. He was a member of an Elk hunting club, that took its members to Colorado on a regular basis for elk hunts. William had a beautiful organic garden and enjoyed the time he spent tending his garden. Many of his children and other family members enjoyed the results of his labor.

William is survived by his wife, Thelma; children: William (Jennifer Gladding) Hartsell of Ionia, Lucille (Glen) May of Caro, Jeffrey (Maryanna) Hartsell of Kingston, Leatha (Scott) Germain of Deford, Connie (John) Sommer of Deford, Cole (Stazha) Hartsell of Cass City; grandchildren, Caitlin (Dustin) Higdon, Bennett Hartsell, Jeffrey Hartsell, Eric Hartsell, Joshua (Dee) Kamrad, Jessica Kamrad, Lindsay Germain, Adrien Hartsell, Erin Hartsell, Mason Hartsell, Lauren Hartsell; great-grandchildren, Joshua William, Haley and Cody; brother, Leonard (Donna) Hartsell of Owosso; sisters, Elda Straty of Prudenville, Anna Mae (Joseph) Owens of Bridgeport; many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by brothers, Leland Hartsell, Orville Hartsell, Roland Hartsell; sisters, Euleta McComb and Wilma Ashmore.

Funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 26, 2012 in Kranz Funeral Home of Kingston with Debra L. Kranz Funeral Service Celebrant officiating. Interment is in Kingston Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the time of service on Tuesday, in Kranz Funeral Home of Kingston.

Arrangements by Kranz Funeral Home of Kingston.

Pallbearers for Mr. Hartsell will be Josh Kamrad, Jeffrey Hartsell, Eric Hartsell, Adrien Hartsell, Mason Hartsell and Bennet Hartsell.

Memorials may be made to the family discretionary fund.

Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.