

Lyke, Orville

Orville Lyke, 85, of Hale, passed away Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009 at Courtney Manor in Bad Axe. He was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army, being called to service on Aug. 14, 1945. He served in the Philippines, Japan and Okinawa with the 440 Signal Heavy Construction Battalion. After returning from service, he was a self-employed truck driver and farmer until retirement. Not loving retirement, he worked in his later years for Plainfield Township.

He will be best remembered for his fun-loving, tender spirit and his eagerness to assist anyone in need of a helping hand. He was a gentle man who exhibited unconditional kindness and a wonderful sense of humor and wit. He was an avid reader, hunter, fisherman and bowler, loved playing cards and was a die-hard Detroit Tigers fan. He was unfailingly committed to his family and will be dearly missed by his family and friends. He had the biggest of hearts, and as they say: a heart is not judged by how much it loves, but how much it is loved by others.

His loving spirit will live on in the memories of his children: Cheryl Tulloch and Christine (Martin) Caverly; sister, Lulu; brothers Lawrence, Richard and James; 9 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and friends, including his "girls" at Courtney Manor who fondly referred to him as their "PaPa Bear".

He was preceded in death by Diana, his wife of 57 years, and son Gerald.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Mehta and the staff of Courtney Manor who so lovingly and compassionately cared for Dad over the past few years.

A Memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Feb. 7, 2009 at the Buresh-Bennett Funeral Home, 121 S. Washington, Hale with Pastor Rob Nordin officiating. A Celebration of Life Luncheon will be conducted immediately following the service at the VFW Hall in Hale.