

Maurer, Neil

Neil Joseph Maurer, 84, died Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 12, 2000, at Huron Memorial Hospital after a prolonged illness. Neil was born Sept. 15, 1915, to the late John and Emma (Heilig) Maurer of Paris Township. In his youth, Neil attended the Maurer School through the eighth grade and served Mass at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church for 17 years. He also was a member of the Holy Trinity Progressive baseball team for which he played catcher. As a young man, Neil worked on the family farm and later worked at Michigan Lumber Co. in Detroit where he learned the carpentry trade. During World War II, Neil served in the Army Air Corps 806th Medical Air Evacuation Squadron as a surgical technician. He entered the service on Jan. 13, 1942, and spent two months in basic training in Camp Atterbury in Indiana. For most of the war, Neil was stationed in Belfast, Ireland, where he tended the sick and wounded, flying from the battlefield to the base hospital in C-47s and in his spare time playing baseball. On Dec. 20, 1945, Neil was released from the service as a staff sergeant with the decorations of American Theater Ribbon, EAME Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and Victory Medal World War II. On Nov. 16, 1946, Neil married Elizabeth "Betty" Pulcer at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Later, they took over the Pulcer family farm, turning it into a grade-A dairy operation. During this time Neil enjoyed hunting and playing horseshoes when time away from the farm allowed. He bowled on the Brahmer Oil and Gas of Ubly bowling team. He also was a member of the Huron County Zoning Board for many years and a member of the Michigan Milk Producers Association. Neil retired from farming in the mid-80's but remained active in agriculture and carpentry while in good health. Neil was a member of the VFW Post of Parisville, the Holy Name Society, and a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Smiths Corners. Neil also was a member of the Tip-of-the-Thumb Dance Club. Surviving are his wife, Betty, of Ubly; his son Randy Maurer and his wife, Pamela, of Ubly; his grandchildren Nicole Champagne and her husband, Christopher, of Charlotte, and Miranda Maurer of Saginaw; three brothers, Ed Maurer and his wife, Margaret, of Harbor Beach, Fred Maurer and his wife, Grace, and John Maurer and his wife, Joan, both of Ubly; one sister, Emma Mazure of Ubly; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by three sisters, Kate True, Helen Oberski and Clara Polk; and three brothers, Raymond, Tony and Elmer Maurer. Funeral services will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 15, 2000, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Smiths Corners, with burial in the church cemetery. Military graveside services will be presented by the Parisville VFW Post 5740. Wake services will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubly. Visitation will be 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. today, from noon to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, and from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.