

## Harold J. Baker 1916 – 1999

Harold J. Baker of Caseville, passed away Thursday, June 17 at Huron Memorial Hospital in Bad Axe at the age of 82.

He was born on November 8, 1916 in Montezuma, Iowa, the son of the late Pearl P. and Alice (Stonehocker) Baker. On December 21, 1935 he was united in marriage with Betty Schlenker in Newton, Iowa.

During the Great Depression, from 1933-1936, Mr. Baker worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in Oskaloosa, Iowa. In 1941 Mr. and Mrs. Baker moved to Michigan and Mr. Baker began an apprenticeship in automotive repair. Through the 1940's he worked as a mechanic, eventually owning his own repair garage. He then went on to work at the U.S. Army Experimental Tank Arsenal in Warren for 22 years, retiring in 1970 as general foreman. At this time, Harold and Betty moved to Caseville.

Mr. Baker served the town of Caseville as a Councilman, Council President, and the Township Supervisor. He was a charter member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles #3690 in Caseville, and belonged to the Caseville United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Betty; three children, Betty M. Baker (Dale) Freeland of Shelby Township, Dale L. (Betty) Baker of Rose City, and Joyce Baker (Robert) Fisher of Midland; seven grandchildren: Larry (Diane), Allen (Alicia), and William (Tamara) Freeland, Paula and Dennis (Stephanie) Baker, and Bryan and Sandy (Michael Wasserman) Fisher; eight great-grandchildren: Brianna, Ryan, Lisa, Amy, Tracy, Jacob, Zachary and Nicholas; two sisters, Margaret Owens and Audrey DeSelm; two brothers, Homer and James Baker; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by seven sisters and brothers: Max, Roy, Kenneth, Donald, Lloyd, Ethel Fridley, and Virginia Gibson.

Funeral Services will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 20 from the Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon, with Rev. Michael Quayle, pastor of Caseville United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Caseville Township Cemetery. The Eagles Ritual Service will be Saturday evening.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association.