

Campbell, William

William James Campbell, 80, of Saginaw, a well-known Saginaw wildlife artist, passed away Monday, February 23, 2004. James was born and raised in Bad Axe under the loving care of his parents, Jean Isabell McKnight and John Duncan Campbell, along with his sister, Betty Jean Morse, now of Homer. After graduation from Bad Axe High School, Class of 1942, he served in World War II in the Army Air Corp as a Buck-Sergeant, Drill Instructor, Paratrooper and Military Policeman, stationed in Brazil and occupied Japan. He was also an Honor Guard Member of General Douglas McArthur as he entered Japan. After four years of service for his country, he followed his creative talent of art and attended Society of Arts and Crafts in Detroit for three and a half years. Later he worked for General Motors for three years as staff artist. From there he moved in to the advertising business and soon started his own company, Campbell, William and Stark Advertising, later merging with Parker, Willox, Fairchild and Campbell Advertising Inc., becoming part owner and finally sole owner of that corporation, which at the time, was the largest advertising agency in Northern Michigan. He was better known as Jamie or Soupy to his family and friends in Bad Axe. James is one of Michigan's nationally recognized wildlife artists, winning many awards. He served as judge in wildlife carving shows and displayed his art in Michigan and many other states. He added his special artistic touch in Saginaw Valley Community Church by painting murals on the walls of the children's department under the direction of Pastor Bryan McCoy, children and youth pastor, and senior pastors, Marvin and Miriam Sweigart. He served on the Board of Saginaw Voluntary Action, Honorary Deputy with Saginaw Sheriff Kelly, Editor for Michigan Wildlife Magazine, a member of the Saginaw Artist Guild; the Germania Club and for 25-years offered his talent in advertising and made scenes for many of their programs. Above all, his friends and family enjoyed his generous and loving heart. Jim possessed the charisma that won your friendship and love. With his creative eye, he saw the beauty of life and lived his life to the fullest. He loved and cared for his family and community and will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. We release him into the arms of our Loving Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. James is survived by his wife, Catherine Darlene Campbell, of Saginaw; son, Scot James Campbell; daughter-in-law, Gwen Ellen Campbell; grandson, Justin Steven Campbell, all currently residing in Agoura Hills, California; sister, Betty Jean Morse, of Homer. He was husband to Rosalie Theresa Wicks Campbell for 45-years, who is now deceased. A memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 6, 2004, at Saginaw Valley Community Church, 3660 Hermansau Road. of Saginaw.