

Wiederhold, Philip

Phil G. Wiederhold, 88, long-time Elkton businessman, died Friday morning, April 12, 2002 at Scheurer Hospital in Pigeon after suffering a massive heart attack at home. He was born June 1, 1913 in Elkton at the home of his parents, the late Mose and Lucille (Laclair) Wiederhold. In 1933, Phil bought his first truck, a 1930 Model A Ford and hauled sand to the new school being built in Ubly. He and brother Ed started Wiederhold Brothers Trucking Co. in 1937 and changed the name to Wiederhold Freight Lines in 1942 when they got their MPSC license. At one time they had 50 truck/ trailer rigs on the road, hauling anything from grain and gravel to lumber, and even Pepsi. Also in March of 1942, he and Annabelle Grigg were married. She preceded him in death Dec. 30, 1995. Phil and Annabelle raised 10 children, and from 1963 to 1973, would pack them all up for a trip to Florida. In the early 1970s, Phil sold his interest in the trucking business to his nephew, Larry. He purchased property at the west limits of Elkton and built a new business, Wiederhold Repair Service. In 1986, he sold the business to two of his sons and 'kind of' retired. He continued working at the shop, selling used cars and running parts. His little yellow car will be missed traveling the west side of the county. Surviving are four sons, Gordon of St. Louis; Ed and his wife, Mary; John and his wife, Becky; and Doug and his wife, Michelle, all of Elkton; five daughters, Alice Birchfield and her husband, Vernon, of Leander, Texas; Donna Sherwood of Bad Axe, Connie Wiederhold; Laura Prill, and her husband Bill; and Rose Karastes and her husband, Dennis, all of Elkton; 32 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; a great-great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Lilly Jackson; two grandchildren, Jim Wiederhold and Ashley Prill; his brother and sister, Edward and Lillian Wiederhold. Funeral services will be conducted 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 16, 2002 at the Community Wesleyan Church, which he helped build and was a member. Rev. DeWeerd Smith, pastor, will officiate with burial in Riverside Cemetery, Elkton. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. Monday at the Champagne Funeral Chapel, Elkton, and at the church after 10 a.m. on Tuesday. Memorials may be given to the Community Wesleyan Church. Words of condolence may be sent at www.champagnefuneralchapel.com