

Gettel, Clarence G.

Clarence George Gettel, 82, of Sand Point, passed away tragically on Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2002, along with his wife, Phyllis, and grandson, Seth Schupan, as a result of an automobile accident in Gilford Township. He was born in Bay Port on April 26, 1920, the son of the late Herbert J. and Dora (Schubach) Gettel. After graduating in 1937 from Pigeon High School, he attended and graduated from Michigan State College in 1941. From April 1942 until his discharge as a Captain in February 1946, he served with the United States Army, taking part in the Battle of the Bulge, where he received an air medal as an observer for the artillery. He was united in marriage to Phyllis A. Leipprandt on June 29, 1946 at the Hayes Methodist Church and they celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1996. Clarence farmed for four years until 1950, when the family established the Gettel Implement Co., which he managed until retiring in 1986. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Pigeon, the Pigeon Lions Club, the Farm Bureau, and the Sand Point Association. He enjoyed boating, traveling to visit his children and grandchildren, and MSU sports, especially football and basketball. In addition to his deceased wife, Phyllis, his family includes: his son, James C. Gettel of Longboat Key, Fla.; two daughters, Marian Kaser, and her husband, Vaughn, of Los Osos, Calif., Jeanne Schupan and her husband, Marc, of Kalamazoo; six grandchildren, Ian, Elliott, Shayna, Seth (deceased), Jacob, and Jordan; a sister, Dorothy Parks and her husband, Charles, of Port Austin; two brothers, Herb Gettel and his wife, Doris, of Pigeon, Douglas Gettel and his wife, Judy, of Bloomfield Hills; a sister-in-law, Mary Gettel of Pigeon; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Barbara, and a brother, Loren. Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 2, 2002 at the First United Methodist Church, Pigeon, with the Rev. Margaret Passenger and Rev. Gordon Nusz officiating. Burial will be in the Grand Lawn Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6:30 to 9 tonight, and from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, at the Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, and from noon until the service time at 1 p.m. at the church. Memorials maybe made to the American Diabetes Association, Scheurer Hospital, Michigan State University or First United Methodist Church.