

Harry J. Niemierowicz, age 86 of Eighth Street in Manistee, died Monday January 31, 2011 at the Manistee County Medical Care Facility in Manistee.

He was born on July 13, 1924 in Manistee, Michigan son of the late John A. and Martha (Szpliett) Niemierowicz. Harry attended Manistee High School and was awarded his diploma with the class of 1944. He served our country during World War II in the United States Navy from April 1943 to February 1946. Harry married Rita P. Newman on January 27, 1951 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. They recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Through his lifetime, Harry was employed with Manistee Salt Works, Pittsburgh Steamship Company and retired from the Packaging Corporation of America after 33 years of employment and after his retirement was employed in the Maintenance Department at the Manistee Post of the Michigan State Police.

Harry volunteered in many areas and activities at Manistee Catholic Central Schools and St. Joseph Catholic Parish. He was always willing to give a helping hand or advice to anyone. He loved yard work and was happiest just putzing around the house and yard. He was a member of the V.F.W Walsh Post # 4499, the American Legion Post # 10, The Catholic War Veterans Post # 1847, all of Manistee. He served as an usher at St. Joseph Catholic Church of Manistee for several years where he was a member.

He is survived by his wife Rita Niemierowicz of Manistee, MI, two daughters & sons-in-law: Jean & Dennis Laskey and Mary & Harry "David" Drew all of Manistee, MI, he was Ja Ja to three grandchildren, Richard (Jennifer) Laskey of Howard City, MI, David Drew of Kalamazoo, MI and Michael Drew of Manistee, MI, three great grandchildren, Trenton, Madalynn & Trace Laskey, two sisters & one brother-in-law: Phyllis & Leonard Chmielewski and Barbara Parr all of Manistee, MI, one sister in-law Madeleine Newman of Traverse City, MI. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive him.

In addition to his parents Harry was preceded in death by a brother Clarence Niemierowicz and a brother-in-law Glen Parr, his brothers in-law and sisters in-law, Ray "Rex" Newman, Frank and Clara Newman, Evelyn and Irene Newman.

Mass from the Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated on Friday, February 4, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee with Reverend John McCracken and Reverend Sylvestre Obwaka celebrants. Burial will follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Manistee.

An evening Vigil Service will be held Thursday evening February 3, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee, where friends may begin calling at the funeral home on Thursday afternoon after 2:00 p.m. The family will be at the funeral home on Thursday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to receive friends.

Memorials will be established in Harry's name for St. Joseph Catholic Church of Manistee and Manistee Catholic Central Schools. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.