

Robert “Skipper” Skipski age 73 of Manistee, Michigan, passed away at his home on Saturday morning, May 21, 2011 after a short illness. He was born March 1, 1938 in Manistee, Michigan and was the son of the late John and Victoria (Zawacki) Skipski. Bob graduated from Manistee High School with the Class of 1956. After high school, he joined the United States army where he had served in the 40th Tank Battalion of the 4th Infantry Division, from September 10, 1956 until September 9, 1958. Robert married Rita K. Aultman on September 14, 1963 at Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Manistee. He was a member of the Civic Club of Manistee having served as First Vice President for many years, was president of the VFW Dad’s Club until it was disbanded and at present a member of the Men’s Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Walsh Post #4499 of Manistee. He was a past member of the Knights of Columbus of Manistee.

Bob was an avid fisherman, mushroom hunter and pool player. He loved going to casinos and had fourteen royal flushes all at the Little River Casino. He retired in 1998 after forty years of service to the Packaging Corporation of America in Filer City, Michigan.

He is survived by his wife Rita K. Skipski of forty-seven years, his daughter Jennifer Skipski both of Manistee, MI, and his son Bob Skipski of Eastlake, MI, his sister in-law and brother in-law, Ilene and Ervin Kowalski of Manistee, MI, his sister in-law, Carol Aultman of Onekama, MI, and his sister in-law, Margaret Sullivan of Waterford, MI. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive him as well as his cat of twenty three years, Precious.

He was also preceded in death by four sisters Helen Szymanski, Bernadine Silseth, Dorothy Sell and Sophie Golembiewski and by two brothers Frank J. Skipski and Carl “Carlie” Skipski, his father in-law and mother in-law, Hubert and Mary Aultman, his sister in-law and brothers in-law, Matilda and Art Kowalski, Vic Sullivan and Charles Aultman.

According to Bob’s wishes, cremation has taken place and the family will receive friends at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee on Wednesday evening, May 25, 2011 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM with a rosary being prayed at 5:30 PM also at the funeral home. Private family graveside services will be held at a later date at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Manistee.

In lieu of Flowers, please consider a gift in Bob’s name to the Homeward Bound Animal Shelter or to Manistee Catholic Central Schools. Envelopes are available at the funeral home. **The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.**