

Benjamin “Ben” Zawacki age 92, of Manistee, Michigan, died early Thursday morning, December 8, 2011 at the Manistee County Medical Care Facility.

He was born November 22, 1919 in Manistee, Michigan and was the son of the late Thomas and Mary (Ozdych) Zawacki. He served as a staff sergeant in the United States Army during World War II from June 13, 1942 until October 2, 1945. He was employed, for most of his life, at the Hardy Salt / Akzo Salt Company of Manistee until his retirement. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church of Manistee, a life member of the Civic Club, the VFW Walsh Post #4499, the American Legion Post #10 and the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1128 all of Manistee. Ben loved to be outdoors and tending to his gardens and working in his yard. He enjoyed spending time and chatting with all his neighbors in Oak Hill.

Ben is survived by several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by four brothers Frank, Ted, Louis “Dugan” and Adrian Zawacki and by four sisters, Blondine, Evelyn and Selma Zawacki and Emaline Polisky.

Mass from The Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated Monday, December 12, 2011 at 12:00 noon at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee with Rev. John McCracken celebrant. Burial will follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Manistee where graveside military services will be conducted by the members of the VFW and American Legion Ritual Squad.

Relatives and friends will pray the Rosary Monday morning at 11:00 AM at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee, where friends may begin calling Monday morning after 10:00 AM. The family will be at the funeral home, Monday morning from 10:00 AM until 11:35 AM to receive friends.

Memorials will be established in Ben’s name for Saint Joseph Catholic Church and for Guardian Angels Catholic Church. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Ben was one of the most kind and gentle men ever. He provided many a delicious meal to Jim and his family over the years, Ben was a hero.

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