

**John E. Zygaj**, age 87 of Manistee, Michigan, died Friday night, November 26, 2010 at West Shore Medical Center in Manistee. He was born April 17, 1923 in Mason County, Michigan and was the son of the late John H. and Esther (Sass) Zygaj. John was a graduate of Manistee High School the class of 1942. He served in the United States Army with the 87<sup>th</sup>. Infantry Division during World War II from February 12, 1943 until January 26, 1946. John married Gertrude R. Slawinski on May 5, 1951 at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. He had been employed at the Manistee Fallen Drop Forge Company for several years and later as a manager of the Lloyd & Smith Plumbing Company, retiring in 1984 from Jack Rengo Oil Company, where he had worked for many years. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church of Manistee and the St. Joseph Men's Club. John was also a life member of the VFW Walsh Post #4499 where he was a past Quartermaster, a life member of the American Legion Post #10, where he was a past Commander and a past Adjutant, a member of the Society La Soclete Des 40 Hommes et & 8 Chevauk Voiture Locale #1363, and a life member of the Civic Club all of Manistee. John enjoyed fishing and making wooden crafts.

He is survived by his wife of almost 60 years, Gertrude R. Zygaj of Manistee, two daughters and sons in-law; Gail and Gary Wohlscheid of Lowell, MI, and Monica and John Sarisky of Lawrenceville, Georgia, two sons and a daughter in-law; John Jr and Joan Zygaj of Wood Dale, Illinois, and James Zygaj of Freesoil, MI, four grandsons, John Paul and Michael Wohlscheid, and Joseph and Nikolaus Sarisky, his faithful cat companion "Corky". Numerous nieces and nephews also survive him.

Two sisters, Veronica Alice MacDonald and Eugenia Veeder also preceded John in death.

Mass from The Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 11:00 AM at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee with Rev. John McCracken celebrant. Burial will follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Manistee, where graveside military honors will be given by the members of the VFW and American Legion Ritual Squad's of Manistee.

The Evening Vigil service will be prayed at 8:00 PM on Tuesday evening at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee, where the family will receive friends on Tuesday evening, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

Memorials will be established in John's name for Saint Joseph Catholic Church and for Manistee Catholic Central Schools. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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