

Selkirk “Sonny” Wheeler, age 81 of Manistee, died Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital.

He was born on May 29, 1937 in Manistee, Michigan, son of the late Thomas and Sigrid (Hansen) Wheeler. He attended Manistee High School. Sonny married Carol L. Hansen on August 20, 1960 in Manistee at St. Peters Lutheran Church. He served in the Michigan National Guard during the late 1950’s and early 60’s. Sonny was employed at the Packaging Corporation of America in Filer City for 32 years until his retirement in 1997. He enjoyed listening to country music, the outdoors and working in his yard, and taking drives around the area. He liked baseball and football and was an avid Detroit Tigers fan. Sonny was the Exalted Ruler of the Manistee Elks Lodge #250 of Manistee at three different times and was very active in the lodge, helping to organize the Elks Hoop Shoot, the annual member’s memorial service every December, the Flag Day service, as well as helping on many of the dinners and banquets at the lodge. He was also a member of Divine Mercy Parish of Manistee (St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Shrine) where he was a lector and member of the St. Mary’s Men’s Club.

He is survived by his wife of over 58 years, Carol L. Wheeler of Manistee; his daughter and son in-law Lori and Thomas Knudstrup of Appleton, WI; his son Steven Wheeler of Manistee; two grandchildren Stephen Knudstrup of Houghton, MI, and Carolyn Knudstrup of Appleton, WI; his brother and sister in-law Gerald and Dorothy Wheeler of Stevensville, MI; two sisters Mary Smith of Traverse City, MI and Marion Landenberg of Pine Mountain, GA; and his sister in-law Maxine Wheeler of Onekama, MI. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive him, as well as good friends.

He was also preceded in death by three brothers and two sister’s-in-law: Jean and Bernice Wheeler, Howard Wheeler and Thomas and Corliss Wheeler, Jr., and by two sisters and brother’s in-law: Mildred and Arthur Harrington and Marguerite and Fred Wemple and his infant sister Marie.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 11:00 AM at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee with Reverend Zeljko Guberovic officiating, with burial to follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery also in Manistee.

The family will receive friends at the Herbert Funeral Home on Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 PM and on Wednesday morning one hour prior to the funeral service. The members of the Elks Lodge #250 of Manistee will conduct Memorial Services at the funeral home on Tuesday evening at 8:00 PM.

A memorial in Sonny’s name will be established for the Manistee Elks Lodge Improvement Fund. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

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