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Hand, Keith A

Hartford, MI

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Keith A. Hand, 85, of Hartford, passed away Friday, Oct. 26, 2007, at Lakeland Specialty Hospital in Berrien Center. A Graveside Committal Service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29, at North Shore Memory Gardens in Coloma, with military rites conducted by Coloma American Legion Post 362, VFW Post 1137 of Benton Harbor, VFW Post 6803 of Watervliet and Stevensville American Legion Post 568. Visitation with the family will be held this afternoon from 3 to 5 p.m. at Starks & Menchinger Family Funeral Home, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice..

Keith was born on the 4th of July, 1922. He was one of three sons born to James and Cassie Hand. On Aug. 8, 1942, he married Dorothy Geisler in Chelsea, Mich., and together they had two children.

Keith was a proud veteran of World War II, serving as staff sergeant in Okinawa and the Pacific Theater. He loved sharing his memories of that time.

Keith retired as a laundry engineer from Whirlpool Corp. Additionally, he worked for his father at Hand Real Estate Agency. Keith enjoyed fixing things, working with wood, working in his flower garden and also collected rare coins. Keith enjoyed the out-of-doors, particularly hunting and fishing. He was extremely proud of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.. Keith is survived by his wife, Dorothy; his son, Keith A. (Valerie) Hand Jr. (Valerie) of Hartford; two grandchildren, Michael Kettelhut and Deborah Piggott; and by his three great-grandchildren, Brent and Christy Kettelhut and Eric Piggott; his son-in-law, Arnold Jackson; and his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, John and Jeanne Pavlick. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Sharon Jackson, and two brothers, Fay Hand and James Hand Jr.