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MICHAEL JOHANNS 1956-2012

PAULDING – Michael Joseph Johanns, age 55, died Wednesday, Sept. 26 at his residence.

He was born Dec. 7, 1956 in Paulding County, the son of Charles E. and Frances T. (Ochmanek) Johanns. On April 11, 1980, he married Tamara L. Shaffer, who survives. He was owner/operator of MTJ Farms. He was a member of Divine Mercy Catholic Parish, Paulding, and the Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council #3584, Paulding.

Also surviving are his mother, Frances Theresa Johanns, Paulding; a daughter, Lesley (Jon) Parrett, Paulding; a son, Eric Johanns, Defiance; a sister, Karen (Rick) Varner; two brothers, Greg Johanns of Paulding and Keith (Cindy) Johanns, Dublin; and four grandchildren, Marley, Gannon, Gavin and Colsen.

He was preceded in death by his father and a brother, Tony Johanns.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, Oct. 1 at Divine Mercy Catholic Parish, Paulding. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation will be from 1-8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, with a

rosary service at 7:30 p.m.

To honor the wishes of Mike Johanns, the family requests memorials made to CHP Hospice of Paulding, or a charity of the donor's choice in lieu of statuary, throws, wind chimes, etc.

Online condolences may be left at www.denherderfh.com.

LUIS SALAS SR. 1907-2012

PAULDING – Luis Salas Sr., age 105, died Wednesday, Sept. 26 at The Laurels of Defiance.

He was born Aug. 19, 1907 in Puertode Lacanela, Mexico, the son of Rosemdo and Guca (Garzia) Salas. On Aug. 4, 1934 he married Guadalupe Gonzales, who preceded him in death on Sept. 27, 1985. He was employed by the former Noneman Lumber/Hartzog Lumber of Paulding and was a member of Divine Mercy Catholic Parish, Paulding.

He is survived by three daughters, Esperansa (Charlie) Gonzalez and Angelica Rodriguez, both of Fort Wayne, and Sulema "Sue" Hernandez of Paulding; three sons, Conrado Salas of Sarasota, Fla., Humero Salas of Fort Wayne and Jesses Salas, Antwerp; a sister, in Monterey, Mexico; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

He also was preceded in death by children Amelia, Romalia, Roberto, Olivia, Richardo and Luis Jr.; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; three brothers and a sister.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29 at Divine Mercy Catholic Parish, Paulding. Burial will follow in Cooper Cemetery, Paulding Township. Den

Herder Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Visitation will be at the church one hour prior to services on Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations made to The Laurels of Defiance Activity Fund or Masses.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com.

RUTH YOCHUM 1942-2012

HICKSVILLE – Ruth I. Yochum, 69, died Sunday, Sept. 23, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She was born Sept. 24, 1942, in Paulding, the daughter of William and Irene (Hinsch) Stahl. She attended Paulding High School. She was married to Frank Yochum, and he preceded her in death. Ruth retired from Harlan Cabinets in 2009, after 20 years. She was a member of the First Apostolic Church, Defiance, and Mt. Zion Ladies Aide, Grover Hill.

She is survived by four sons, John of Harlingen, Texas, Jim of Hayworth, Ill., Jerry of Carlsbad, N.M. and Frank Jr. (Candy) of Donna, Texas; two daughters, Francine (Dave) Martin and Bette-Sue (Ben) Johnson of Hicksville; a sister, Dianne (Jack) Dietz of Hicksville; 14 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Edward, in infancy; and a granddaughter, April Trenary.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday. Sept. 29 at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville, with Pastor Robert Frake of the First Apostolic Church, Defiance, officiating. Burial will be in Forest Home Cemetery, Hicksville.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28 at the funeral home and one hour prior to services on Saturday.

Memorials may be made to the family.

Online condolences my be shared at www.smithbrownfuneralhome.com.

NORMAN CLINE 1936-2012

HICKSVILLE – Norman L. Cline, 75, died Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Community Health Professionals Inpatient Hospice.

He was born Sept. 27, 1936 at Mark Center, the son of William and Kathryn (Haver) Cline. He was a graduate of Mark Center High School. Norm retired from Ohio Power Company after 35 years of service. He loved sports and was a well known umpire and referee in northwest Ohio. He was the baseball coach in Paulding for many years. Besides being an avid sports fan, Norm also enjoyed fishing and gardening. He was a member of the Sherwood Masonic Lodge and the Grace United Methodist Church. At church, he was a head usher and the president of the UMM.

Surviving are a daughter, Sharon (Kim) Schlater; three sons, Larry (Marie), Paul and Todd

(Jessica); six grandchildren; two brothers, Jerry (Sharon) Cline and Bill (Luann) Cline; one sister, Marcia (Larry) Pressler; a half-brother, Pat Fisher; and a half-sister, Danielle Fisher. Marie Clark has been a special longtime friend of Norman's.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Cline; his mother, Kathryn Fisher; and a son, Terry Cline.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 1 at Grace United Methodist Church, Hicksville, with Pastor Tim Pieper officiating. Burial will be at Lost Creek Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30 at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville. A Masonic service will be held at 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Grace United Methodist Church.

Online condolences may be shared at www.smithbrownfuneralhome.com.

JUDY ALTIC 1962-2012

ANTWERP – Judy Marie Altic, 50, of Fort Wayne, formerly of Antwerp, passed away Monday, Sept. 24.

She was born July 2, 1962 in Toledo, the daughter of Marvin and Faralee (Bowling) Martin. On June 15, 1985, she married Shawn Altic, who survives.

Also surviving are her mother, Faralee Martin of Bradner; a daughter, Alesha Rae Altic of Fort Wayne; a granddaughter, Ariona Nicole O'Dor, Fort Wayne; and two sisters, Carolyn Warden of Bradner and Brenda Bozeman of Wayne.

She was preceded in death by her father and a daughter, Brandi Nicole.

A graveside service will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 29 at Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

Visitation is from 9-11 a.m. Saturday at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp.

Preferred memorials are to American S.I.D.S. Institute.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

JUSTINE KARNES 1935-2012

DEFIANCE – Justine F. Weible Karnes, 77, of Defiance, passed away Saturday, Sept. 22 at

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital.

She was born March 28, 1935 in Broughton, the daughter of Justus and Alice (Freeland) Weible. She was a member of the Defiance AMVETS, Moose, Eagles and VFW auxiliaries. Justine loved her dogs, Jack and Buckeye, and her three cats. She never knew a stranger. She was loved by many and all. She will be greatly missed by her four children and all who knew this wonderful woman.

She is survived by three daughters, Brenda (Tim) Womble and Theresa Lang, both of Phoenix, and Donna Kalb of Florida; a son, Jerry Lang of Defiance; her identical twin sister, Colleen Roberts of Globe, Ariz., and sisters Kathleen Burton of West Liberty, Ky. and Lorine (Juan Esquivel) Ross of Broughton; a brother, Larry (Louise) Weible of Defiance; two grandchildren, Jeremy (Amber) Shepherd of Bryan and Jamie Shepherd of Phoenix; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Robert Karnes; a brother, Jerry Weible; three sons: John Lang, Paul “Butch” Lang and Randy Lang; and a stepdaughter, Tammy Kalb.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Lawson-Roessner Funeral Home, Defiance. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Visitation is from 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 and one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

Suggested memorials are to the Defiance Humane Society or the family.

Condolences may be shared with the family at www.defiancefuneralhome.com.

ORVILLE HEILSHORN 1927-2012

WESTERVILLE – Orville R Heilshorn, 85, formerly of Defiance, went to be with Jesus on Sunday, Sept. 23 at his daughter's home with his family surrounding him.

He was born on March 20, 1927, in Junction, the son of Orville W. and Christina (Groh) Heilshorn. Orville was a 1945 graduate of Defiance High School. On Aug. 27, 1949, he married Alice "Punkie" Huff of Oakwood, who survives. He was a devoted Christian and family man. He enjoyed being with family and friends playing cards, pool, ping pong, bowling, golfing and traveling. He also enjoyed supporting and cheering on his children and grandchildren in their many activities. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Defiance where he served many years as an usher and was part of the Berean Sunday School class. He volunteered with Meals on Wheels. He was a member of UAW 211. He worked at General Motors for over 40 years, mostly as a timekeeper. He served as secretary for many bowling leagues, member of the Auglaize Golf Club and was a member of the National Association of Realtors.

Also surviving are three sons, Robert (Jean) Heilshorn and William (Shelley) Heilshorn, both of Lewis Center, and Steven (Leslie) Heilshorn, Paulding; two daughters, Kathy (Ken) Kaye, Chandler, Ariz. and Karen (Kevin) Shock, Westerville; 23 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one brother, Donald Heilshorn, Defiance; two sisters, Ruth Gray of Defiance and Patricia Christy, Oregon, Ohio; one stepbrother, William Stone, Ashtabula; and two stepsisters, Betty Billmaer of Toledo and Florence Myers, Bradenton, Fla.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Heilshorn; three sisters, Vada Bauer, D'Nelle Brown and Eileen Cubberly; one grandson, Isaiah Steven Heilshorn; and one great-grandson, Dima Lee Heilshorn.

A private graveside service will be on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Riverview Memorial Gardens, with a memorial service at 7 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, Defiance, with officiating done by his children, Pastor Robert Heilshorn, William Heilshorn, Kathy Kaye, Pastor Steven Heilshorn and Karen Shock.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Hanenkrath-Clevenger-Schaffer Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to Defiance Area Youth for Christ, She Has A Name-helping fight human trafficking, and Trinity United Methodist Church.

Online condolences may be made at hcsfuneralhome.com.

HAROLD HASCH 1922-2012

CECIL – Harold O. Hasch, age 90, died Saturday, Sept. 22 at the Meadows of Kalida in Kalida.

He was born May 26, 1922 in Defiance,the son of Olen and Clara M. (Bohn) Hasch. On March 16, 1945, he married Nova L. Johnson, who preceded him in death on March 18, 2008. He was a lifelong farmer.

He is survived by two sons, Rex Hasch of Cecil and Terry Hasch, Defiance; a granddaughter, Merri Hasch; a grandson, Chad Hasch, Defiance; and three great-grandchildren.

He also was preceded in death by a daughter-in-law, Elaine M. Hasch, and a sister, Ruth Dangler.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding. Burial will be in Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 at the funeral home and one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice.

Online condolences may be made to www.denherderfh.com.

JOHN KNAPP 1946-2012

ANTWERP – John L. “Butch” Knapp, 65, of Antwerp, passed away Saturday, Sept. 22 at Van Wert Inpatient Hospice.

He was born Oct. 30, 1946, in Harlan, Ind., the son of Ross and Mary (Sunday) Knapp. He was a member of Countryside Church of Christ.

Surviving are his children, Matt of Detroit and Kristina Berry of Auburn, Ind.; companion, Judy Schaffer of Defiance; three sisters, Donna (Max) Timbrook of Fort McCoy, Fla., Lou (Jack) Payne of Fort Wayne and Judy Gray of Winston-Salem, N.C.; two brothers, Larry (Melanie) of Adrian, Ga. and Steve (Sue) of Antwerp; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Betty Hissong and Bill Knapp.

His funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 27 at Countryside Church of Christ, Grabill, Ind. Burial will be in Scipio Cemetery.

Visitation is from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26 at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, and at the church one hour prior to services on Thursday.

Preferred memorials are to the church.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

RANDY SCHAADT 1957-2012

FORT WAYNE – Randy L. Schaadt, 55, of Fort Wayne, passed away Friday, Sept. 21 at his sister's residence in Antwerp.

He was born Aug. 31, 1957 in Van Wert, the son of Herbert and Laura "Katy" (Hilton) Schaadt of Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his parents and three sisters, Wanda Rodman of Antwerp, Arlene (Melvin) Baxley of Statesville, N.C. and Audrey Knapp of Hobe Sound, Fla.

His funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, with visitation two hours prior. Burial will be in Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

Preferred memorials are to the Church House of Grabill.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

BARBARA SHUHERK 1929-2012

CROMWELL, Ind. – Barbara Anne (Rhoad) Shuherk, 82, died peacefully in her home, Thursday Sept. 20, in the care of her loving daughters and only granddaughter.

She was born Nov. 13, 1929, in Paulding, the daughter of Edward and Blanche (Doster) Rhoad. On April 17, 1947, she married her high school sweetheart, Eddie C. Shuherk, who preceded her in death Sept. 22, 2011. She was the plant manager's secretary at Weatherhead/Dana, originally at the Antwerp plant, then transferring to the Syracuse plant in 1976. She retired in 1994 after 45 years of service. She was a member of the Antwerp United Methodist Church and Eastern Star. She was a wonderfully loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, family being of the utmost importance to her. She enjoyed reading her daily devotions, Bible and novels. In earlier years she was a beautiful seamstress, often making matching dresses for her daughters and herself.

Surviving are three daughters, Beth Anne Seslar, Carol C. Shuherk and Cindy L. Shuherk; six grandchildren, Eric Seslar, Cassandra Anne (Craig) Daniels, Joshua (Tara) and Luke (Katie) Parrish and William and Walker Zupan; eight great-grandchildren; a brother, Donald (Isobel) Rhoad; and a cousin, Marilyn Hedde.

She also was preceded in death by four siblings, Bob and Dick Rhoad, Elizabeth Ashton and

Eunice Smith.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Antwerp United Methodist Church.

Visitation is from 4-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24 at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, and at the church one hour prior to services on Tuesday.

Preferred memorials are to the American Diabetes Association.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

MICHAEL CLINE 1949-2012

OAKWOOD – Michael Lee “Mike” Cline, 62, of Oakwood, formerly of Portsmouth, went to be with the Lord at 1 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 20 at Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born Oct. 31, 1949, in Portsmouth, the son of Hearst S. and Trilby (Morgan) Cline. He was a carpenter and an avid lover of the outdoor scene. He enjoyed hunting for the biggest buck, and loved fishing. He always asserted his opinion and stated what was on his mind, but at the same time, always willing to give of his time, be there for anyone and volunteer wherever help was needed.

Surviving are five sisters, Betty Jo Payne, whom he lived with, Antha (Wade) Deming, Nancy (Gene) Gerschutz and Mary (Gerald) Friesner, all of Oakwood, and Diane (Russ) Tackett of Beaver; two brothers, Hershel (Christy) Cline of Portsmouth and David (Tracy) Cline of Leesburg; and many nieces, nephews, friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Joseph Anthony Cline.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Heitmeyer Funeral Home, Oakwood, with his nephew, the Rev. David A. Tackett from End Times Harvest Church, officiating. Burial will follow in Sherman Cemetery, Oakwood.

Visitation will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24 and one hour prior to services on Tuesday.

Memorials may be given to help with the funeral expenses or to a charity of the donor’s choice.

Condolences may be expressed at www.heitmeyerfuneralhome.com.

DORIS BAKSA 1921-2012

PAULDING – Doris I. Baksa, age 90, died Wednesday, Sept. 19 at Hickory Creek of Hicksville.

She was born Dec. 18, 1921 in Fort Wayne, the daughter of Myers L. and Ethel (Myers) Saxton. On Nov. 4, 1942, she married Steve Baksa Jr., who preceded her in death on July 26, 1989. She was a member of Paulding United Methodist Church. She was formerly employed by Casaad and Quick Lock, both of New Haven, and Stokely's of Paulding. She enjoyed gardening and canning.

She is survived by two sons, Howard (Barb) Baksa of Briceton and Roger (Susan) Baksa of Hedges; three grandchildren, Carrie, Daniel and Derrick; a stepgrandson, Tobin; and three great-grandchildren: Jake, Lily and Carter.

She also was preceded in death by a daughter, Charlotte Wilson, a brother, Vernon M. Saxton; two sisters, Lois Bullinger and Mabel Bland; and a stepgrandson, Alex Doster.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Paulding United Methodist Church, Paulding. Burial will follow in Hedges Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, and one hour prior to services on Tuesday at the church.

Memorial donations may be made to a Hickory Creek of Hicksville or American Diabetes Foundation.

Online condolences may be left at www.denherderfh.com.

JAMES DYSINGER 1962-2012

PAULDING – James A. Dysinger, age 50, died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident on Wednesday, Sept. 19 in Auglaize Township, Paulding County.

He was born March 7, 1962 in Paulding, the son of Vernon C. and Iona (Holtsberry) Dysinger. On April 17, 1992, he married Merry Chris Lowe, who survives. He was employed by Defiance Metal Products, Defiance. In his spare time, he enjoyed hunting and fishing and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Chris Dysinger, Paulding; two brothers, Terry Dysinger, Paulding, and Jerry Dysinger, Putnam, Conn.; three sisters, Rita Robinson of Paulding, Brenda (Ba) Vo of Austin, Texas, and Karen (Curt) Felver, Zanesville; four stepchildren, Harold J. Collins, Paula G. Manning, Kenneth J. Collins and Harold A. Eldridge; 11 stepgrandchildren; three great-stepgrandchildren; and his best friend, “Buddy.”

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Vernon “Bruce” Dysinger,

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 24 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding. Burial will be in Hedges Cemetery, Paulding County.

Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23 at the funeral home and one hour prior to services on Monday.

Memorial donations may be made to First Baptist Church or a charity of the donor’s choice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com.

RETHA “ES” FINNEGAN 1948-2012

DEFIANCE – Retha “Es” (Sherry) Finnegan, 64, of Defiance, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at her residence, with her family by her side.

She was born on March 23, 1948 in Melrose, the daughter of Rex and Betty (Bair) Sherry. On March 27, 1965, she married Paul Finnegan, who survives. She was a member of Bethel Christian Church of Arthur. She had worked at Murphy’s Mart, Kroger’s and Meijer’s, When Retha was not doting on her grandchildren, she was often found outdoors tending her vegetable and flower gardens, and collecting angels.

Also surviving her are a son, William Finnegan of Napoleon; a daughter, Lisa (Harold) Andrews of Defiance; grandchildren, Jessica Ratliff, Austin Finnegan, Kyle Ratliff and Megan Finnegan, all of Defiance; a sister, Carol (Donald) Russell of Defiance; three brothers, William (Linda) Sherry and David (Paula) Sherry, both of Defiance, and Daniel (Jennifer) Sherry of Castroville, Texas; and a sister-in-law, Debra Sherry.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Jeffery Sherry; and a sister, Jeanette Rollins.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 at the Bethel Christian Church, Oakwood, with Pastor Chris Baker, officiating. Cremation will follow.

Visitation will be held from 2-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 at Hanenkrath-Clevenger-Schaffer Funeral Home, Defiance, and one hour prior to the services Saturday at the church.

Memorials are suggested to the Bethel Christian Church or American Kidney Foundation.

Online condolences can be given at www.HCSFuneralHome.com.

JEANNE REED 1955-2012

CLOVERDALE – Jeanne R. Reed, age 57, died Sunday, Sept. 16 at the Tijuana International BioCare Hospital, Tijuana, Mexico.

She was born July 19, 1955 in Paulding, the daughter of George L. and DeNeal (Stasell) Williamson, who preceded her in death. On Nov. 10, 1973, she married Douglas J. Reed, who survives. She was formerly employed by StoneCo. as a scale clerk.

Also surviving are two sons, Steven (Kristine) Reed of Van Wert and Keith (Tara) Reed, Cloverdale; a daughter, Amber (William) McCoy, Fort Wayne; five grandchildren, Austin, Ethan, William, Matthew and Nathan; and two sisters, Patricia Thompson of Dayton and Linda (Paul) Clark, Antwerp.

She also was preceded in death by an infant brother, John R. Williamson.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 at Roselms Christian Church, Washington Township, Paulding County, with the Rev. Harold L. Clark officiating. Burial will follow in Middle Creek Cemetery, Grover Hill.

Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, and one hour prior to services on Saturday at the church.

Memorial donations may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com.

HELEN KELLY 1937-2012

PAULDING – Helen R. Kelly, 74, died Sunday, Sept. 16, at The Gardens of Paulding.

She was born Nov. 4, 1937, in Paulding, the daughter of Leo A. and Ova B. (Copsey) Phlipot, who both preceded her in death. On Jan. 18, 1958, she married Louis A. English, who preceded her in death on Dec. 2, 1961. On June 18, 1966, she married George G. Kelly, who survives. She was a member of the Paulding United Methodist Church. During her working years she was a waitress, a practical nurse, a telephone operator, a cook and a dispatcher for the Paulding County Sheriff's Department. Above all she was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Also surviving are four children, Rita (Tom) Ricica of Defiance, Gary "Bub" English and Anne (Jeff) Pieper, both of Paulding, and George G. "Charlie" (Rachel) Kelly Jr. of Granville; four brothers, Donald (Janice) Phlipot and Ray Phlipot, both of Paulding, Roy (Mary Jo) Phlipot of Scott and Richard Phlipot of Defiance; seven grandchildren, Jennifer (Matt) Devereaux, Jeffery Ricica, Sara English, Hannah English, Sophia English, Mikayla Pieper and Bailey Pieper.

She also was preceded in death by a brother, Robert W. Phlipot, and twin daughters, Paula Jean and Pamela Sue English.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 19, at the Den Herder Funeral Home in Paulding with the Rev. Ben Lowell officiating. Burial will follow at Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation will be from 2:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18, and one hour prior to funeral services on Wednesday.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions to The Gardens of Paulding Activity Fund, Community Health Professionals of Paulding County or the Paulding United Methodist Church Roof Fund.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com.

DONALD THOMAS

CONTINENTAL – Donald R. Thomas, 79, of Continental was welcomed home by his Lord and Savior at 4:20 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10, 2012 at St. Rita's Medical Center, Lima. He was reunited with his parents, David and Dorothy (Matson) Thomas and his stepmother, Helen Thomas.

He was an U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War, serving from 1950-53. On June 21, 1958, he married Norma J. Cass, who survives. Don retired from Miller Brothers Construction in Archbold

after 36 years. He was an active farmer for 50-plus years. He was a member of the Elks and VFW in Defiance, Masonic Lodge in Continental, Military Order of the Cooties in Continental, and a life member of the Continental American Legion. He enjoyed collecting and restoring antique tractors and cars with his son-in-law, Tim, and enjoyed fishing, camping, boating, and especially spending time with his family. During the summer months, he loved gardening.

Also surviving are four children, David (Kim) Thomas of Weston, Mark Alan Thomas of Continental, Rachel Renae Eagleson of Continental, and Dorothy Jean (Timothy) Heishman of Continental; five grandchildren, Melani Eagleson, Jeffrey Thomas, Jason Thomas, Ashley Heishman and Victoria Heishman; three great-grandchildren, Jada, Chloe and Maci Pepiot; and a sister, Thelma Thomas of New Haven.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15 at Heitmeyer Funeral Home, Continental with Pastor Jerry Rayl officiating. Burial will follow in Monroe Cemetery, Continental with a military service by the Continental American Legion.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, 3-8 p.m. Friday, and one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are to the American Cancer Society or to Christ Lutheran Church Memorial Fund.

Condolences can be expressed at www.heitmeyerfuneralhome.com.

JONI RHODES 1956-2012

PAULDING – Joni Charlene Rhodes, 55, of Paulding, formerly of Antwerp passed away Sunday, Sept. 9 at her residence in Paulding.

She was born Sept. 19, 1956 in Hicksville, the daughter of Charles Sr. and Rose (Carr) Rhodes. Joni would be remembered by many for her years of service at Kammeyer's IGA in Antwerp.

Surviving are her mother, of Ligonier, Ind.; four children, Terry (Charlene) Pastor Jr. of Antwerp, Brandy (Benji Haven) Worthington of Edgerton, Candy (Ronald Jr.) Sims of Kendallville, Ind. and Matthew Rhodes of Cecil; three brothers, Jamie of Swanton, Charles Jr. of Lima and George of Ligonier; three sisters, Julie Wort of Ligonier, Lori Foltz of Paulding and Terri Mosby of Kimmell, Ind.; and nine grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 at Antwerp United Methodist Church, Antwerp, with visitation one hour prior to services. Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, is in charge of arrangements.

Please omit flowers. Preferred memorials are to the family.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

SARAH ROBESON 1943-2012

VAN WERT – Sarah J. Robeson of Van Wert passed away on Sunday, Sept. 9 at Van Wert Inpatient Hospice Center.

She was born Jan. 3, 1943 in Van Wert, the daughter of Llewellyn Sr. and Blanche (Harman) Whitaker. She attended Haviland, Scott and Blue Creek local schools. On May 2, 1964, in Decatur, Ind., she married Ronald E. Robeson, who survives. She retired from Teleflex Inc. after 33 years of dedicated service. She was a loving and caring person who will be greatly missed.

Also surviving are her children, Mona (Kurt) Massillo of Van Wert, Candi (David) Holt of Scott, Bud Robeson of Van Wert, and Blaise (Cathy) Robeson of Sissonville, W.Va.; grandchildren, Jamie (Adam) Wehage, Nicole Martin, Connor Massillo, Adam (Lindsey) Stemen, Ryan King, Miranda Caldwell, Zachary Robeson and Ava Robeson; great-grandchildren, Adin Wehage, Dresden Wehage, Gage Stemen, Alexia Stemen, Corbin Delgado, Ciara Caldwell, Cayee Caldwell and Chanze Caldwell; her mother-in-law, Mary (Shingledecker) Robeson, of Van Wert; a brother, Doyle (Nancy) Whitaker of Scott; and a sister, Anna Jean Bigalow of Scott.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Llewellyn “Pete” Whitaker Jr.; and her father-in-law, Franklin “Bud” Robeson.

There will be no services held at this time. Alspach-Gearhart Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

Preferred memorials may be directed to Van Wert Inpatient Hospice Center in honor of Sarah Robeson.

Condolences may be expressed at www.alspachgearhart.com.

CELESTE WALDEN 1922-2012

PAULDING – Celeste A. Walden, 90, of Paulding, died on Sept. 4.

She was born Jan. 22, 1922, the daughter of Leo and Bertha Johanns of Paulding.

Surviving are her children, Patrica (Robert) Walken of Lake Arrowhead, Calif., Edward Johanns of Paulding and Kathleen (Robert) Hasty of Phoenix, Ariz.; five grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; two brothers and a sister.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Marvin Walden; a grandson, Jason; a granddaughter, April; three sisters and four brothers.

The Cremation Society of Toledo assisted the family and no funeral or services were conducted.

DeNEAL WILLIAMSON

HAVILAND – DeNeal Dolores Williamson, of Haviland, went to be with her Lord on Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012.

She was born in Allen County, Ind., the daughter of Harold and Hilda (Weileman) Stasell. On April 6, 1946, she married George Williamson and worked by his side on the family farm. She enjoyed quilting gardening, reading, playing cards and spending time with family and friends.

She loved her family and cherished her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a faithful member of the St. James Lutheran Church of Payne.

She is survived by her sister, Connie Myers of Payne; daughters, Patricia Thompson of Dayton, Linda (Paul) Clark of Antwerp and Jeanne (Doug) Reed of Grover Hill; eight grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George, in 2003, and a son, Johnny, in 1946.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 10 at St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, with Pastor Fred Meuter officiating. Burial will follow in Blue Creek Cemetery, Paulding County.

Visitation will be from 2- 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, and one hour prior to services on Monday at the church.

Preferred memorials are to the church.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com.

LAVON FLORENCE 1931-2012

OAKWOOD – Lavon C Florence, 81, of Oakwood, passed away on Monday, Sept. 3 at the Ann Arbor Veterans Hospital, Ann Arbor, Mich.

He was born on July 1, 1931 in Defiance, the son of Ellsworth and Helen (Partee) Florence. On Oct. 18, 1985, he married Rhonda Stoller, who survives. He was a U.S. Army veteran (Sgt. 1C Ranger), serving during the Korean War from 1950-56. He worked at Johns Manville from 1950-62, then for the Wabash Railroad as a conductor from 1962 until his retirement in 1986, working at the Peru-Toledo and Defiance terminals. He was a member of First Baptist Church, life member of the VFW Post 3360 and the AMVETS and also was a member of the Eagles. He was an avid bowler and enjoyed fishing and hunting.

Also surviving him are his sons, Leo (Pam) Florence of Defiance, Lowell Florence of Cecil, Lavon T. (Barbara) Florence of Oakwood and Lance Florence of Sherwood; daughters, Linda (Jerry) Justinger and Laura Rose, both of Defiance; 20 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; brothers, Donald (Betty) Florence of Bryan and Roger (Frances) Florence, Kenneth (Bernice) Florence and Robert (Betty) Florence, all of Defiance; and sisters, Delores Robarge of Bryan, Mary (Arnold) Mandrick of Hillsdale, Mich., and Jean (Lavon) Wiseman, Janet (Bill) Fischer and Rita (Paul) Karnes, all of Defiance.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Larry Florence; a sister, Norma Miller; and a stepgrandson, Joseph White.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8 at the First Baptist Church, Defiance, with the Rev. Tim Yazel officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, where graveside rites will be accorded by VFW Post 3360.

Visitation will be held from 2-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7 at Hanenkrath-Clevenger-Schaffer Funeral Home, Defiance, and at the church one hour prior to services on Saturday. An AMVET service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday.

Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor’s choice.

Online condolences can be given at www.HCSFuneralHome.com.

MARY KAY WILCOX 1918-2012

VAN WERT – Mary Kay Wilcox, 94, passed away on Monday, Sept. 3 at Vancrest Nursing Home, Van Wert.

She was born Feb. 24, 1918, the daughter of William J. and Ellen Murphy. On Oct. 7, 1941, she married the Rev. R. Edsel Wilcox, who preceded her in death on July 30, 1982. Kay was a 75-year member of Bluebell Chapter #151 Order of Eastern Star, Past District Grand Matron, District #27 OES. Ms. Hattie, as she was known, was past president of the Defiance District United Methodist Women, a certified lay pastor and served the Hartsburg UMC for 14 years.

She is survived by two sons, Bill (Linda) Wilcox of Blacklick and Jim (Nancy) Wilcox, Haviland; six grandchildren, Jennifer (Randy) Snyder of New Albany, Heather (Kelly) Jones of Waxhaw, N.C., Jason (Jen) Wilcox of Reynoldsburg, Brittany (Bryce) Sinn of Wren and B.J. and Brooke Wilcox, both of Haviland; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 7 at Alspach-Gearhart Funeral Home & Crematory in Van Wert with the Rev. Paul Miller officiating. Graveside services will be held at 3:30 p.m. at the Shawnee Cemetery in Shawnee.

Visitation will be held from noon-6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6.

Preferred memorials are to the West Ohio Conference-United Methodist Women.

Condolences may be expressed at www.alspachgearhart.com.

HELEN JOHNSON 1923-2012

GROVER HILL – Helen Louise Johnson, 89, Grover Hill, died at 1:10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1 at CHP Defiance Area In-Patient Hospice Center.

She was born July 11, 1923, near Venedocia, the daughter of Reginald and Alberta (Harpster) Plummer. On Dec. 27, 1941, she married James Robert “Bob” Johnson, who survives. She had worked at Ball Ban in Mishawaka, Ind., Continental Can (Greif Bros.) in Van Wert, the Grover Hill News and retired from General Electric in Fort Wayne. She was a lifelong member of the Grover Hill United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women and a member of the G.E. Elecs Club. She held various offices in the UMW and as the Sunday school superintendent. She played basketball in high school and enjoyed following basketball all through her life.

Also surviving are two sons, Greg Johnson of Latty and Brad (Bobbie) Johnson, Morrison, Colo.; five grandchildren, Zachary R. (Meagan) Johnson, Megan (Mic) Wilborn, Serge B. Johnson, Joshua McGregor (Antoinette) Johnson and Jason Johnson; three great-grandchildren, Jacob, Sarah and Liam Johnson; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Rex and William Plummer; and two sisters, Rosemary Plummer and Betty Geething.

Services will be at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5 at Grover Hill United Methodist Church with Pastor Mike Waldron officiating. Burial will follow at a later date in Middle Creek Cemetery.

Cowan & Son Funeral Home, Van Wert, is in charge of arrangements.

Visitation is from 2-4 p.m. prior to services Wednesday at the church.

Preferred memorials are to Grover Hill United Methodist Church or a charity of the donor's choice.

Expressions of sympathy may be forwarded to www.cowanfuneralhome.com.

ROBIN TRACY 1964-2012

PAULDING – Robin Sue Tracy, 48, of Paulding died at 2:10 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 2 at her residence.

She was born March 23, 1964 in Defiance, the daughter of Paul and Ruth Tracy. She worked for Spartech in Paulding and previously worked for 25 years at Eagle Pitcher/Meridian in Grabill, Ind. She had a great love for her family. She will always be remembered for never saying no to her nieces and nephews and great-nieces and nephews and the awesome slumber parties they had through the years. She also enjoyed buying shoes.

Surviving are her mother, of Melrose; two brothers, Bob Tracy of Defiance and Greg (Joyce) Tracy of Melrose; two sisters, Alane Densmore of Oakwood and Marsha Williamson of Cecil; 10 nephews and nieces, Trevor Tracy, Troy (Windy) Tracy, Ryan (Loretta) Densmore, Nathan (Ginger) Densmore, Alicia (Gary) Plotts, Rachel Densmore, Lucas Tracy, Sarah Tracy, Renee Perez, Jonathon Williamson; and 18 great-nephews and nieces: Brandon, Darion, Carson and Ashlynn Tracy; Dakota, Madison and Piper Densmore; Hope, Jaden, McKenzie and Emma Plotts; Dylan Perez; Paige Jones; Parker Densmore; Brian and Jessica Bennett; Randi and Dave Drew.

She was preceded in death by her father and a niece, Miranda Tracy.

A funeral service will be held at at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5 at Heitmeyer Funeral Home, Oakwood with Pastor Eileen Kochensparger officiating. Burial will follow in Little Auglaize Cemetery, Melrose.

Visitation is from 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4 and one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be expressed at www.heitmeyerfuneralhome.com.

LEE MATTHEWS 1959-2012

PAULDING – Lee Alan Leon Matthews, age 53, died 1:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 1 at his residence after an extended illness.

He was born July 17, 1959, in Paulding County, the son of Charles A. and Dorma Jean (Bland) Matthews. On June 29, 1990, he married Peggy Sue Stone, who survives. He was employed by Herbert E. Orr Company and was a member of UAW #211.

Also surviving are a daughter, Miranda L. Matthews of Napoleon; a sister, Elvene (Justus) Holtsberry of Oakwood; and seven brothers, Gordon Matthews of Sturgis, Mich., John (Edna) Matthews of Bryan, Ronald and Jerry Matthews, both of Cecil, Lynn Matthews of Defiance,

Dana (Teresa) Matthews of Broughton, and Jody Matthews of Payne.

He was preceded in death by his parents; an infant brother, Charles Matthews Jr.; and an infant sister, Wilda Matthews.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding. Burial will follow in Hedges Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4 at the funeral home and one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

Donations may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com.

For August 2012 obituaries, click here