

## Luke B. Knapke

Luke B. Knapke, of Minster, died on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at Joint Township Hospital in St. Marys. He was 90.



He was born May 29, 1919 to Anthony and Anna Elizabeth (Hemmelgarn) Knapke of Minster. On Aug. 18, 1949, he married Mary H. Cull, who survives him.

He is also survived by his children: Ann (Wendell) Fletcher of Pittsboro, N.C., Tony (Deb) Knapke of Columbus, Paul (JoAnn) Knapke of Columbus, Melanie (Doug) Taylor of New Bremen, Gene (Norma) Knapke of New Bremen, John (Janet) Knapke of Columbus, Ted (Trish) Knapke of Mason, Kathy (Jim) Keiser of Minster and Susan (Dan) Paulus of Bowling Green; as well as 24 grandchildren, four step-grandchildren and six great grandchildren. He also leaves behind siblings: Beata Muhlenkamp of St. Henry, Betty Goetz of Pasadena, Calif., Ann (Lell) Hicky of Dayton and Tom (Dorothy) Knapke of Glandorf. He is preceded in death by a son-in-law Steven Kemper, a grandchild, and siblings: Prisca Liskowiak, Joan Knapke, Marie Smith, Lorena Knapke,

Fr. Paul Knapke and Anthony Knapke.

He was a member of St. Augustine Church in Minster, serving as the organist and choir director until his retirement in 1981. He taught vocal music and English at Minster High School before transferring to teach junior high science in fall of 1955 until July 1974. He was elected a trustee of the Minster Historical Society at its first election in 1976 and remained active in that capacity and undertook the task of translating early issues of the Minster Post, which were printed in Gothic style print. He was named Citizen of the Year in 1985 by Minster Civic Association and was Oktoberfest Grand Marshal in 1989. He was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Holy Name Society and the Ohio Retired Teachers Association. His hobbies included history, woodworking and reading.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, March 22, 2010, with Rev. Rick Nieberding officiating. Burial followed at the church cemetery with full military honors at the graveside by the Minster Firing Squad. Memorials may be donated to Minster Area Life Squad and Minster Historical Society. Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Minster handled the arrangements.