

Robert C. Knapke

Robert C. Knapke, 76, of Coldwater, Ohio, died Monday, March 20, 2006 at his residence in Coldwater.

He was born on Monday, March 17, 1930, in Philothea, to the late Edward H. and Helen Dues Knapke. He married Mary Jane Marchal on Nov. 30, 1951 in Versailles. She died in 1959. He married Josie Marchal on May 6, 1961 in Versailles. She died in 2001.



He is survived by his six children, 21 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. They are: Cindy and Mike Shaffer of Celina and their children Brad and Abby; Larry and Martha Knapke of Celina and

their children Katie, Ashley, Chris, Allison and their grandchild Brynn; Bruce and Vicki Knapke of Glen Rock, Pa. and their children Kelly, Ken, Kevin, Kara, Kim, Kaylyn, Kyle and Kurt; Doug Knapke and Kimberly Gladish of Coldwater and her child Katie; Kris and Al Wenger of Mountain Home, Idaho and their children Adam, Alex and Emma; Joan and Mike Roll of St. Henry and their children Josie, Lucas and Leah.

Also surviving are: sister Mary Lou and Walter Fortener of Coldwater; brothers Jerry and Marlene Knapke of Coldwater, James Knapke of Hoagland, Ind. and Edward and Toni Knapke of Ft. Myers, Fla.; brother-in-law Louis Braun of St. Henry; step brothers-in-law Wilbur Thobe of Minister and Charles Geise of Coldwater; step sisters-in-law Viola Sitzman of Dayton, Esther Smith of Dayton, Evelyn Geise of Coldwater, and Butch Geise of Coldwater, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He is preceded in death by a sister Sylvia Braun; sister-in-law Ruth Knapke, mother-in-law Leafa Geise, father-in-law Henry Geise; brother and sister-in-law Harold and Velma Marchal; step sisters-in-law Loretta Schulze, Martha Thobe and Mildred Kinninger; and step brothers Alfred, Arthur, Elmer and Robert Geise.

Mr. Knapke attended Holy Trinity Catholic Church and was a member of Knights of Columbus Council 1991, Fraternal Order of Eagles #3025, Loyal Order of Moose, Celina. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Navy and a member of Coldwater V.F.W. 5135, Coldwater American Legion 470. He was also a former Coldwater Volunteer Fireman for 20 years serving as Assistant Chief. He was employed part time at Pax Machine in Celina and was the past owner of Knapke Motor Sales in Coldwater.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church on Friday, March 24, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. with Fr. Thomas Dorn, officiating. Memorials can be made to American Heart Association. Condolences may be made at www.hogenkampfh.com.