

Richard J. Simon

Richard J. "Dick" Simon, 83, Fort Loramie passed away of natural causes on Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010, at Lima Memorial Hospital, following a two month illness.



He was born on June 15, 1926 in Willowdell, the son of the late Leo A. and Clara Ellen (Barga) Simon.

On May 31, 1952, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Celina he married the former Shirley VanderHorst, who survives with their five children and spouses: Juli Simon of Fort Loramie, Karen (Tony) Wendeln of Piqua, Rick (Darthea) Simon of Cincinnati, Keith Simon of Fort Loramie and Connie (Doug) Woodruff of Athens. He is also survived by a brother and spouse, John "JP" (Jeanne) Simon of Versailles, sister-in-law Mary Ellen Simon of Versailles, and grandchildren: Michael and Kendra Wendeln, David Wendeln, Kelly Wendeln, and Matthew Simon. He was preceded in death by his parents as well as five siblings: Helen (Vince) Muzleski, Doris (Ed) Kowaleski, Kathleen Simon, Robert Simon and Mary Jane (Bob) Magoto.

Dick was a 1945 graduate of Versailles High School and a graduate of the Miami-Jacobs Junior College. He worked at and managed Willowdell Sales Company, selling Oldsmobile and John Deere, for more than 50 years. He had earned many awards for customer satisfaction. Dick served on the Fort Loramie Board of Public Affairs for many years. He was a member of St. Michael Catholic Church in Fort Loramie and served as a Eucharistic Minister while his health allowed. He was a member of the Fort Loramie Community Service Club (formerly Kiwanis Club) from its founding, a charter member of G.Y.M., Inc. and a member of the St. Denis Council of the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed fishing, playing cards and attending Fort Loramie High School sports. He and Shirley enjoyed travel while he was able, but he was always glad to get home.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2010 at the St. Michael Church in Fort Loramie with Rev. Steven Shoup presiding. Interment followed at the St. Michael Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Fort Loramie Rescue Squad or the Fort Loramie Education Foundation. Condolences may be expressed at www.gehretfuneralhome.com.