

Melvin L. Updike

Oct. 13, 1921 - Sept. 26, 2015

JANESVILLE/MONROE - Melvin L. Updike, age 93, of Janesville, formerly of Monroe, passed away on Saturday, September 26, 2015, at his home. He was born on October 13, 1921 in Lynxville, WI (Crawford Co.), the son of Frank and Minnie (Smith) Updike. He married Hazel A. Duerst on August 11, 1942 in Monticello, WI. She passed away on January 29, 2006.

Melvin and Hazel had farmed in Adams Township before moving to Monroe and then to Janesville in 1968. He retired from General Motors Corp., Janesville and was a member of the UAW. He was a member of Faith Lutheran Church and the Moose Club, both of Janesville. He enjoyed making Swiss Clocks, deer hunting, fishing, dancing, playing cards and visiting the casinos.

He is survived by three daughters, Janice (Rick) Schneider, Brodhead, WI, Nancy Bliedernicht (Rodney Hoverson), DeForest, WI, Kristine Fulmer (Ken Sommerfeldt), Janesville, WI; a son, Richard (Mary) Updike, Rice Lake, WI; a sister, Shirley (Bob) Albright, Sun City, AZ; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and one great great-granddaughter. He is also survived by two very special friends, Nyall Knutson and Margaret Klein.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, a daughter, Judy Updike in infancy; four sisters, Olive Potts, Velma Voelker, Viola Tiffany, Garnette Olson; four brothers, George Eugene, Orville, Loren, and twin brother, Milford Updike; granddaughter, Kaitlyn Mae Updike; great-grandson, Ashtian Rufer; and a son-in-law, LeRoy Rufer.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, October 1, 2015, at the D.L. NEWCOMER FUNERAL HOME, BRODHEAD, WI. Burial will be in Highland Cemetery, Monticello, WI. Visitation will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., Wednesday, at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to Mercy Home Hospice Care.