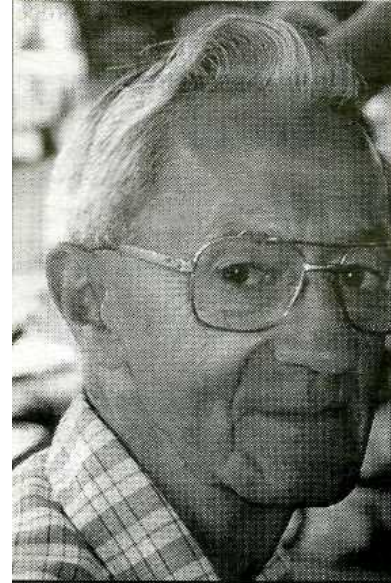


## WALTER MERLIN WIRTH

Walter Merlin Wirth, age 72, of Monticello, died Monday, October 20, 2003 at the New Glarus Home. Walter was born November 2, 1930 in Monticello, the son of the late John and Leonia May (Staley) Wirth. He was raised on the family farm in Exeter Township and attended Wallace rural school. Walter enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1952 and retired after twenty-one years of service. He then worked for the Joseph Huber Brewing Company of Monroe for twenty-one years before retiring in 1994. He married Elvia Fuentes in May of 1956. On March 16, 1973 he was united in marriage to Fredes Fuentes at the Zwingli United Church of Christ in Monticello. Mr. Wirth enjoyed gardening, wine making, and was known in Monticello for his daily walks. He was a member of the Air Force Sergeant's Assn., Retired Enlisted Assn., and Teamsters Local Union #744.



Survivors include his wife, Fredes, of Monticello; seven children: Rita (Mike) Miller of Madison, Walter Wirth Jr. of Columbia, MD., Julius Wirth of Woodlawn, MD., Annette (Mike) Aeberhard of Monticello, Jannette (Clay) Bryan of Ocala, FL., Nicole Wirth of Brooklyn, WI., and Christopher Wirth of Madison; ten grandchildren: Daniel and Anna Miller, Walter and Christine Wirth, Raven and Jade Foulker, Caleb, Caly, Charis, and Cara Bryan; one step-grandson, Carson Aeberhard; a brother, John (Edna) Wirth of Monticello; two sisters, Mabel (Ralph A.) Zimmerman of Madison, and Nellie Babler of New Glarus; and his former wife, Elvia Wirth of Madison. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers Wilbert and Edwin Wirth; and two sisters, Wilma Saxer and Viola Holcomb.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, October 23, 2003, at 11:00 a.m. at Zwingli United Church of Christ, Monticello, with Pastor Mary Gafner officiating. Burial with full military rites will be in Highland Cemetery, Monticello.