

Virgil Goetzinger, 94

April 24, 1921 - July 29, 2105

ALMA, MI — Virgil Leonard Goetzinger, 94, of Alma, MI, passed away peacefully on July 29, 2015, after a short illness. He was met in his heavenly home by his parents, 13 siblings, and many close friends and family members.

Virg was born in Defiance, to Joseph and Catherine (Blum) Goetzinger. Together with his 9 sisters and 4 brothers, he was raised on the family farm and attended a small country school.

He attended school through the eighth grade and then did farm labor to help with family expenses. Virg enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942 and proudly served for five years in the South Pacific, including Peleliu Island, during World War II. He considered his service to the country as one of his greatest accomplishments. Virg worked in the mobile home business for 25 years and then worked as a carpenter in his own business, Goetzinger Remodeling, until his retirement.

Virg married his sweetheart, Irene Gaul, in 1946; they recently celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary. Together they raised six children: Allen (Monica) Goetzinger, Donald (Mara) Goetzinger, Diane (Jorge) Pena, Judy (Randy) Zamarron, Gary (Debbie) Goetzinger, and Joseph (Linda) Goetzinger. Virg was a Cub Scout leader for his boys, a long-time member and past commander of Alma VFW Post 1454, a life member of the Alma Elks, member and past Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus, and member and past Faithful Navigator for the 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus. Together, he and Irene enjoyed being actively involved in their community and Nativity of the Lord church. Virg was known to have "buck fever" every November and enjoyed all types of hunting and fishing. He loved gardening and just planted his last garden in June. He and Irene enjoyed an occasional trip to the casino and traveled throughout the country. More than anything, Virg enjoyed many family trips and gatherings with his children, grandchildren, and extended family. Virg will be sadly missed by his wife, 6 children, 23 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 1 great great grandchild, his loyal canine companion Brutus, and many special nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend special thanks to Dr. Rakesh Saxena and the staff of the MidMichigan Medical Center emergency room and hospital and that of the Masonic Pathways Rehab Center for the loving care and respect shown to Virgil in recent years.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, August 1, 2015 at 12 p.m. at Nativity of the Lord Parish, St. Mary site with Fr. Nate Harburg celebrating. Interment followed on Sunday, August 2, 2015, at Chapel Gardens Cemetery. Visitation was held Friday, July 31, 2015 from 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. with an Elks service starting at 8:30 p.m., followed by a Rosary service conducted by the Knights of Columbus all at the Lux-Moody-Wolfel Funeral Home in Alma, MI. Visitation was also held Saturday from 11 a.m. until time of service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Mary's School in Alma or the Alma VFW Post 1454. To view Virg's obituary or to leave a condolence for the family please visit www.luxfuneralhomes.com.



***Lux Funeral
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