

## Alex J. Bruggeman

Alex J. Bruggeman, age 77, formerly of New Bremen, died on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Celina Manor, Celina.

He was born on Feb. 27, 1932 in Maria Stein, the son of Aloys and Elizabeth (Miller) Bruggeman. On Nov. 20, 1954 he married Doretta Link, who died on July 19, 1968. On May 3, 1986 he then married Betty Jo (Smith) Hipple who died on Jan. 15, 1997.

Survivors include his children: Diana and Marvin Stolz of Celina, Kenneth Bruggeman of Ft. Recovery, Lucy and Dave Wynn of Chickasaw, Janice and Jerry Uhlenhake of St. Henry, Lori and Chris DuBois of Cleburn, Texas, and Cynthia Bruggeman and Joe Robbins of Coldwater; and stepsons Mark (Carol) Hipple of Sidney and Vaughn (Jane) Hipple of Ft. Recovery. Also surviving are 18 grandchildren, one great grandchild, brothers Arthur (Charlotte) Bruggeman of Maria Stein and Gerald (Pat) Bruggeman of Greenville, and sisters Marie Knapke of St. Henry, Irene (Norman) Stueve of Minster, Julia (Ivo) Link of St. Henry and Barbara (Dennis) Link of Maria Stein. Preceding him in death were two brothers, Joseph and Vincent Bruggeman, two sisters, Dorothy Reichert and Rita Schulte, and a daughter in law Joyce Bruggeman.

Mr. Bruggeman was a member of the Precious Blood Catholic Church of Chickasaw. He was a member of the American Legion Post 571 of Maria Stein and the V.F.W. Post 9019 of Chickasaw. He was a decorated U.S. Army veteran and Purple Heart Recipient from injuries he received during the Korean War. He was a graduate of the St. John's School of Maria Stein. He was engaged in farming his whole life and also had worked at the former New Idea of Coldwater and at Gagel's Hardware in Maria Stein.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Friday, May 1, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at the Precious Blood Catholic Church in Chickasaw with Rev. Gene Schnipke officiating. Burial will follow in the Precious Blood Catholic Cemetery in Chickasaw. Memorial contributions may be made to the Precious Blood Catholic Cemetery c/o Lester Homan at 5887 Wilker Rd., New Bremen, OH 45869. Gilberg-Hartwig Funeral Home of New Bremen is handling the arrangements.