

Atchison, KS

Raymond F. Wagner, 86, of Atchison, passed away Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM, Monday, May 14, 2012 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church with Rev. Dinah Dutta officiating. Burial will follow in the Sunset Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends from 10:00-10:30 AM prior to the service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the St. Mark's Lutheran Church Building Fund and may be sent in care of the Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home. Condolences to the family may be left online at www.beckerdyer.com.

Raymond was born April 19, 1926 in Atchison, KS the son of Frank Joseph and Inez Dorothy 'Peggy' (Matthias) Wagner. He graduated from Atchison High School in 1944 and joined the United States Army. Ray served his country proudly from 1944-1947 and was in Japan as the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. He had gone through Machinist Training and had worked as a Machinist for Rockwell, the Kesse Machine Shop, Midwest Solvent (MGP) and the Pearl Brewing Company retiring in 1976. The words "I Can't," were never a part of Ray's vocabulary. He was a true scholar and could always be found reading. He would read his kids' text books and could remember where any article was located in his vast National Geographic collection. He was very inventive and crafty, whether it be with machinery or woodworking. People would come from miles around to have Ray fix their various implements and farm machinery. His true passion was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Ray also enjoyed tormenting the local neighborhood kids, who always came back for more. He treated them as if they were his own. He always had a magnificent garden and would share the produce with his neighbors. He liked spending time outdoors, going hunting and mushroom hunting. Ray was a lifetime member of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church, American Legion Post #6 and the V.F.W. Post #1175.

Ray married Betty Jean Lindsey on January 31, 1946 in Atchison, at the First Christian Church with Rev. Loyal Northcott officiating. Betty survives of the home. Additional survivors include daughters, Mari Jo Brown, Whispering Pines, NC; Amelia (Jerry) Kaczmarek, Atchison, KS; grandchildren, Nora (Paul) Joslin; Tim Brown; Sean Brown; Katherine (Randy) Adams; Raymond (Rebecca) Kaczmarek; Robert (Bethany) Kaczmarek; 14 great-grandchildren and a special niece, Carolyn Wilson, Atchison.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Robert M. Wagner and a sister, Helen I. Kesse.