



Robert V. "Bob" Gehrke

June 24, 1930 - September 30, 2012

Mr. Robert V. "Bob" Gehrke, age 82, of Utica, passed away on Sunday, September 30, 2012 in the comfort and dignity of his home with his loving family by his side.

Born and raised in Chicago on June 24, 1930, Bob was a proud veteran of the United States Army and honorably served his country from 1947 to 1950. On September 16, 1977 he married his best friend, the former Jeannette Luehrs with whom he shared 35 years in a partnership based on mutual admiration and understanding.

A hardworking man, Bob was a truck driver by trade. He worked for Langway Express in Chicago, Illinois for many years, retiring in 1995. He relocated to Utica in May of 2000 to be closer to his family. Bob was a good provider, enjoyed the comforts of his home, and was a home body in his own way. He was a direct, no-nonsense man, well-liked by everyone he met. He enjoyed good conversation over a beer with his buds. He was a member of the Teamsters Local 710 of Chicago, and he attended the Greater Grace Church in Utica.

Bob is survived by his wife, Jeannette; his daughter and son-in-law, Vikki and Don Dragoo of Texas; his son and daughter-in-law, Chuck and Amanda Gehrke of Utica; and his grandchildren, Adam, Zachary, and Melissa. He also leaves his sister, Eveline Wells of Texas; many nieces, nephews, especially Doug Brown who was like a son, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, mother-in-law Carolyn Luehrs, and his "girlfriend" Mary Tartaglia. He was

predeceased by his mother, Julia (Zamara) Gehrke.

The family honored and commemorated Bob's life at a private gathering.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.