Obituary

Born: Wednesday, September 14, 1921
Died: Monday, April 28, 2008

Ralph Lester Parks, age 86, passed away Monday April 28, 2008 at the Woodsfield Nursing & Rehabilitation Center after an extended illness. He was born September 14, 1921 a son of the late Reason W. & La Vinice Scott Parks near Marr, Ohio.

Ralph was a 1939 graduate of Bethel High School. He was a veteran of World War II 1941-1945, a former clerk of Bethel Township in the early 50's. He also was a member of the Bethel Township Fire Department and was retired from the Ohio Department of Transportation having retired March 28, 1985 after 30 years of service. He was a member of Grand Lodge and free and accepted Mason at Lebanon, Ohio for over 50 years. Ralph was actively involved in the Dairy business and farming all his life. He loved spending time with his family especially his grandchildren and feeding the birds and relaxing in his recliner.

Ralph was a protestant having been baptized November 4, 1962 by the late Starling Perkins.

Preceded in death by his wife of over 45 years: Elizabeth Delong Parks - April 5, 1992 whom he married May 24, 1947, 2 brothers: Harry & Walter Parks, 4 sisters: Mary Parks Kehl Mick, Martyne Parks Kehl, Shirley Parks Rolland Swindaman and an infant sister.

He is survived by his children:
Troy (Connie) Parks - Hubbard, Ohio,
Becky (Matt) Hilverding - Waterford, Ohio,
Gale Parks - Marr, Ohio,
Dale Parks - Marr, Ohio,
Dana (Kaye) Parks - Marr, Ohio,
Doug (Mary) Parks, - Waterford, Ohio,
6 grandchildren: Emily, Katie, Kelsey, Rachel, Courtney Parks and Donald Hilverding.
2 step grandchildren: Rachelle Zocco and Kristen (Paul) Scragg.
2 step great grandchildren: Izabella and Frances Scragg.
4 sister-in-laws: Margaret Delong Cox - Navarre, Ohio,
Stella Delong Berry - Moundsville, W.Va.,
Bessie Baker Delong - Summit, Mississippi,
Mary Thomas Parks - Woodsfield, Ohio,
2 brother-in-laws: Howard Moffett - Canton, Ohio,
William Swindaman - Ashland, Ohio,
Several nieces and nephews.

Friends received from 7 - 9 p.m. Wednesday at the Bauer-Turner Funeral Home Woodsfield, Ohio where services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday May 1, 2008 with Father David Huffman officiating. Interment in the Mount Hope Cemetery near Marr, Ohio beside his beloved wife Elizabeth.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Bethel Township Fire Department c/o Gene Baker, Treasurer Rt. 2 Lower Salem, Ohio and or the Mount Hope Cemetery Fund c/o Gale
Parks 36600 State Route 260 Rinard Mills, Ohio 45734.