



Joseph E Smolek

September 20, 1932 - November 8, 2019

Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather Joseph Ernest Smolek, 87, of North Judson, Indiana went home to be with the Lord Friday, November 8, 2019. He was born in Pulaski County on September 20, 1932 to Joseph and Helen Hulka Smolek of North Judson. He married Mary Klosinski on May 3, 1952 at S.S. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in North Judson, Indiana. He worked as a self employed farmer in Pulaski County where he farmed mainly corn, soybeans, and mint. He was a second generation mint farmer. Over the years he owned and operated Smolek Farms, Smolek Grain, Smolek Fertilizer, Smolek Trucking and Hoosier Log Cabins. He was a Pioneer Seed salesman for many years as well. After retiring from his own farm he worked part time for Richard Gumz Farms. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, wood working, welding and fabricating equipment in his spare time. He could frequently be found building equipment for the farm. The family also enjoyed truck pulling. He spent many years with his loyal dog, Mort.

Joseph is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary Klosinski Smolek; his four daughters: Betty Travis of North Judson, IN, Marilyn (Kenneth) Lukac of North Judson, IN, Arlene Gray of Winamac, IN, Helen (Robert) Valiquet of Culver, IN, and one son Joseph (Ruth) Smolek Jr. of North Judson, IN; eight grandchildren: Erika (Stephen) Lukac Garrison, Matt Travis, Kenneth "Kyle" Lukac, Wesley Lukac, Jennifer (Seth) Travis, Janelle Thomas, Cody Valiquet, and Owen Valiquet; and five great grandchildren: Colby Garrison, Eve Garrison, Olivia Travis, Cooper Draper and Iris Garrison. He is preceded in

death by his parents Joseph and Helen (Hulka) Smolek; his siblings: Maire Culkin, Louis Smolek, James Smolek, Frank Smolek, and Ben Smolek; and his son Richard Lee Smolek.

Visitation will be from 2-6 PM CT Sunday, November 10, 2019 at the O'Donnell Funeral Home in North Judson, IN. Funeral service will be 10 AM CT on Monday, November 11, 2019 at S.S. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in North Judson, Indiana. Burial will be at St. Jacob's Cemetery in North Judson, IN.

Cemetery Details

Saint Jacob Cemetery

500 West
North Judson, IN 46366

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 10. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

O'Donnell Funeral Home, Inc.
302 Lane Street
North Judson, IN 46366
(574) 896-2149

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

SS Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church
Keller Avenue
North Judson, IN 46366