

Gerald Raymond Meyer, 86, of Centreville, Michigan went home to be with his Lord Jesus Sunday, March 11, 2012. He was born in Muskegon, Michigan on December 15, 1925, the son of Raymond and Minnie (Roselle) Meyer. Sixty-eight years ago in 1944, he married Ellamaree Maxim of Grand Rapids; and together they raised their son Barry and daughter Paula.

Gerald led a very active and productive life for someone without much formal education. Industrious even as a young boy, he started producing his own local newspaper in Grand Rapids before joining the Merchant Marines in 1944. After World War II, he started a business that later became known as Meyer Hydraulics Corp. While the company began by repairing hydraulic jacks for customers around Michigan, it wasn't too many years and Gerald changed the company into a manufacturer of portable hydraulic lifting equipment for airplanes, cars and trucks. Today, the company's products can be found around the world.

In his spare time he loved to fly his Cessna, spend time at the cabin he built back in 1949, hunt and fish, bowl and play golf. He was blessed by God to have bowled a 300-game and shot two hole-in-ones in golf. Gerald was also active in his church over the years teaching Sunday school, playing church softball and serving as a deacon.

Gerald is survived by his wife Ellamaree Meyer of Centreville, son, Barry (Laura Sue) Meyer of Three Rivers, daughter, Paula (Bill) Coomer of Mendon, six grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his dad and mother, Raymond and Minnie Meyer, his brother James (Jim) Meyer, who was killed in the Korean War, grandson, Bobby Coomer and his beloved dog, Bruce.

If desired the family suggests memorials be made in Gerald's memory to the Salvation Army's Little Pine Island Camp (6889 Pine Island Dr., Comstock Park, MI 49321) that sponsored Gerald and his brother for a week of camp one summer during the Depression when his family was dirt-poor.