



Stevens William

December 22, 2006

William (Bill) Francis Stevens, age 82, of Laurie, passed away Friday, December 22, 2006 at the Laurie Care Center in Laurie, MO. He was born October 24, 1924 at Warsaw, MO, and graduated from High School at Cross Timbers, MO.

He entered World War II in the Army Air Force in 1942 and was a S/Sgt in the Heavy Bombardment Combat Crew, 18th Bomb Squadron, 34th Bombardment Battalion. He participated in 29 bombing missions in France, Belgium and Germany. He was the recipient of several decorations and citations, including the Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal.

He was employed as a cattle buyer and seller at the Stock Exchange in Kansas City, MO for several years and then moved to Manhattan, Kansas where was the owner of two lumberyards. He retired to the Lake of the Ozarks and opened and operated Midway Rental at Sunrise Beach until he sold it to its present owners.

Bill was a member of the Osage Community Elks Lodge #2705 in Laurie, the American Legion Zack Wheat Post #624 in Sunrise Beach, Aarat Shrine in Kansas City, Grand Lodge AF & AM of Kansas, the Kansas York Rite and VFW #2591.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Stevens of the home; one daughter, Pam Houpp and husband Bob, of St. Joseph, MO; two sons, Bill Stevens and wife Nancy, and Bob Stevens and wife Kathy, of Manhattan, KS; 4 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, two brothers, Charles (Bud) Stevens and Roy Stevens, of Boonville, three sisters, Louise Roy of Sikeston, Helen Taylor and Mary Margaret Hirst of Boonville, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 27, at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie-Sunrise Beach Chapel in Laurie, with military honors under the auspices of the American Legion Zack Wheat Post #624. The family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. To send sympathy condolences to the family online visit www.kidwellgarber.com. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Elks Lodge #2705 in Laurie, of Alzheimers Association, 1121 Business Loop 70 East, Suite 2A, Columbia, MO 65201. Arrangements are under the direction of the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home of Laurie.