

EDMESTON – RITCHEY

Bernard W. Ritchey, 87, of Edmeston died peacefully at home on May 14, 2009.

He was born January 30, 1922 in St. Francis, Kansas the son of James C. and Daisy I. (Tice) Ritchey. He married Beatrice Fuller February 15, 1943. She predeceased him on January 12, 2008.

Bernard enlisted in the US Marines in December 1941, and served in the Pacific Theater. He retired from Edmeston Central School where he had been employed as a School Bus Driver. Bernard and his wife Beatrice loved camping and traveled three quarters of America and seven provinces of Canada.

Bernard was an extremely talented man; as a craftsman he made furniture and many of his children's Christmas presents. He enjoyed his model railroad trains, fishing, and hunting. Bernard had an inquisitive mind and continued to practice the meteorology he had learned in the Marines with weather balloons, cross word puzzles, and history.

His children Karen J. Helmes, Bernadine L. Frate, Ray Ellen Arnold, James C. Ritchey, Allan D. Ritchey, Theodore W. Ritchey, and Kurt B. Ritchey; fifteen grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren; and his brother James Ritchey survive him

His siblings Alberta Lemery and Mahlon Ritchey predeceased Bernard.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday May 16, 2009 at 4:00 at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston with Pastor Jay Henderson officiating. Interment will follow the service at Edmeston Union Cemetery.

Calling hours are from 2-4 pm prior to the service at the funeral home.

Contributions may be made in Bernard's memory to the Activity Fund at Chase Nursing Home, New Berlin.

Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.hjtfuneralhome.com. Funeral

arrangements are by the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston, NY.

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