



Joel Swanger DeWitt Jr.

June 27, 1918 - July 29, 2015

DeWitt, Joel Swanger Jr., died July 29, 2015 in Troy, Oakland County, MI. He was born in Reger, Sullivan County, MO, on June 27, 1918 to the late Joel Swanger and Doris Harvey DeWitt. During his youth he attended school in Reger and Milan, Sullivan County, MO. While attending Chillicothe Business College in Chillicothe, MO, he met his first wife Mary Frances Richardson. They married on April 17, 1938 in Macon, MO. Joel enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps on December 1, 1943 and was still in training at the conclusion of WWII. Soon afterward he began working with Ford Motor Company in Kansas City, MO and later in Detroit and Dearborn, MI from 1952 through 1983. After the death of Mary Frances in 1980, he married Phyllis Jean Beven Swartz on December 5, 1987 in Royal Oak, MI. They lived in Troy, MI thereafter. Joel's hobbies were gardening, world travel and model railroading. Phyllis and Joel were members of the First Congregational Church of Royal Oak.

Joel was preceded in death by his parents; wives Mary Frances and Phyllis; and stepson Mark Swartz. He is survived by his sons Dale DeWitt (Catherine), Des Peres, MO and Donald DeWitt (Evon), Warwick, NY; stepdaughter Barbara Buckwitz (David), Hazel Park, MI; stepson Paul Swartz (Sylvia), Carlyss, LA; grandsons David DeWitt (Kathy) and Robert DeWitt (Mary Alice); stepgrandchildren Shiloh Wright (Jeff), Joshua Martin (Jennifer), Jeremiah Swartz, Jason Swartz and Aaron Swartz; many great grandchildren; and special friends Gordon Michael and Diane Cipolletti.

A private interment will be at the family site in Meadville, MO.

Tribute Wall

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“ To the family of Joel DeWitt Jr: Please accept my sincere sympathy for the loss of your loved one. While we don't know one another, experiencing the devastation of losing a loved one is something we all face in our lives. The Bible promises a time when "death will be no more" (Rev 21:3.4) and assures us that God hears our prayers (Ps 55:22). I hope this brings you some peace during this difficult time.

Wanda - August 06, 2015 at 08:00 AM