

Robert W. Sankovitch



SANKOVITCH – Robert W., 79, Central City, died Jan. 17, 2008, at Windber Hospice, after a seven year battle with multiple myeloma. Born Jan. 31, 1928, the son of Michael and Frances (Sudac) Sankovitch. Preceded in death by parents; brothers, Joseph, Michael and Frank; two infant brothers; and sisters, Mary Hutsko, Ann Hrapchak, Emily Comiskey and Helen Michinock. Survived by loving and caring wife of 59 years, the former Sophia Pasierb; children, Robert, married to the former Elaine Kralick, Central City; William, Confluence; Jeffery, married to the former Elizabeth Lewis, Evansville, Ind.; Suzanne, wife of Gregory Wilk, Everett; and Philip, married to the former Jody Stansberry, Arlington, Wash.; and grandchildren, Jill, wife of Joe Lichtenfels; Nathan Sankovitch; Laura and Sarah Sankovitch; Benjamin, Joseph and Melinda Wilk; and Katherine and Margaret Sankovitch. Also survived by brother, John, and his wife, Rosemary, Michigan; and a number of nieces and nephews. Bob was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, having served with the Seabees, after enlisting at age 17. He served in the South Pacific helping to build the first atomic bomb test site on Bikini Atoll. A recipient of both the Pacific Theater Ribbon and Victory Medal. Employed by H.H. Carver and Son from 1943 to 1945 and again from 1947 to 1972. Thomas & Kinsey Lumber from 1972 until his retirement in 1991. He helped to construct homes for his three sons from Central City to Evansville, Ind., to as far away as the mountains of Washington state. A member of Central City VFW and American Legion posts, New Baltimore Sportsmans, St. John's Choir, finance committee, usher and bowling league, former assistant Scoutmaster Troop 121, merit badge counselor and the proud father of three Eagle Scouts. A Red Cross multi-gallon donor. He enjoyed hunting, especially rabbits and fishing at Big Cove or New Baltimore. He spent free time helping at Knapp's Greenhouses and talking with friends both old and new. He loved life with his grandchildren, hunting, fishing, bike riding, white water rafting, dog sitting, blueberry picking and many, many walks from the beaches to the mountains. Friends will be received from 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Mulcahy Funeral Home, Central City, where vigil will be prayed Sunday evening. Funeral Mass will be concelebrated at 11 a.m. Monday at Our Lady Queen of Angels Chapel (from St. John the Baptist), the Rev. Monsignor I.C. Wadas and Father Joseph Maurizio, pastor. Committal, with military honors provided by American Legion Post 449, will be held at St. John's Cemetery. Friends who wish may make contributions to Windber Hospice in Bob's memory. "As a well spent day brings a happy sleep, so a life well spent brings a happy death."