

Thomas J. Kerin, age 87 of Manistee, Michigan died Friday morning, March 23, 2012 at the Ludington Woods Assisted Living Home. He was born November 24, 1924 in Jamestown, New York and was the son of the late James and Laura (Perrault) Kerin. Tom served in the United States Army during World War II from April 22, 1943 until December 7, 1945. After his discharge from the army, Tom was employed in his family's restaurant businesses. He married Elnora O'Brien on July 12, 1968 in Tecumseh, Michigan. He was employed, until his retirement, at the General Motors Hydromatic Transmission Plant in Ypsilanti, Michigan. After Elnora and Tom retired, they moved to Manistee to make their home. He was a member of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine Church of Manistee.

Tom is survived by his wife Elnora M. Kerin of Manistee, MI, five grandchildren, Thomas J. (Margaret) Kerin III, Rebecca (Keith) Menzies, Sara Gagnon, Justin Burkeen and Cory Burkeen, several great grandchildren, his sister Dorothy Brooks of Redford, MI, and his brother and sister in-law, Robert and Fern Kerin of St. Clair, MI, his sister in-law, Christine Kerin of Richmond, MI, four step-daughters and their spouses, Maureen and Dennis Jankwietz of East Lake, MI, Molly O'Brien of Manistee, MI, Marjie O'Brien of Traverse City, MI, and Margaret and Candelario Sanchez of Manistee, MI, his step-son and his wife, Murray and Deborah O'Brien of Honor, MI. Numerous step-grandchildren, step great grandchildren and step great-great grandchildren, as well as nieces and nephews also survive Tom.

Tom was also preceded in death by his son, Thomas J. Kerin II, his daughter Michele Kerin, his brother James Kerin, his sister and brother in-law, Ruth and David VanTiem, his brother in-law, William Brooks and his step – son, Edward "Mike" O'Brien.

Mass from The Order of Christian Funerals will be celebrated Tuesday afternoon, March 27, 2012 at 2:00 PM at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine Church in Manistee with Rev. John McCracken celebrant. Burial will follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Manistee, where graveside military honors will be conducted by the members of the VFW Walsh Post #4499 of Manistee Ritual Squad.

Relatives and friends will pray the evening vigil service Monday evening, at 8:00 PM at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee, where friends may begin calling at the funeral home, on Monday evening after 6:00 PM. The family will be at the funeral home on Monday evening from 6:00 to 9:00 PM to receive friends.

A memorial will be established in Tom's name for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Walsh Post #4499 of Manistee. Envelopes are available at the funeral home. **The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.**