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Franklin Shasteen

Jenny Derringer
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Franklin C. Shasteen, 87, Defiance, died at 3:01 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, in Laurels of Defiance.

He was born Aug. 25, 1918, in Napoleon, Ohio, the son of James and Doris (Marksch) Shasteen. In 1941, he married Sadonna M. Duerk, who died in 1994. He retired in 1972 as a partner of Duerk Shasteen Construction Inc. Franklin proudly served in the Northern France, Rhineland and Central European campaigns of World War II with the 559 Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion. He was discharged as a Chief Warrant Officer having earned a Victory Medal, an American Campaign Medal-European African Middle Eastern with three stars. He was a member of Fort Defiance Post 3360 Veterans of Foreign Wars. Franklin was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, Defiance. He also actively supported both the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America. Franklin enjoyed woodworking and was a craftsman at antique restoration.

Surviving are two sons, Philip (Roza) of Defiance and James (Renee) of Perrysburg; two daughters, Barbara Gatz of Parnell, Ohio, and Nancy (Wally) Rybczynski of Lima; two sisters, Marie (Richard) Ament of North Versailles, Pa., and Helen Kenning of Napoleon; five grandchildren, Nahrain, Yasmine and Evan Shasteen, Larissa and Alexandra Gatz; two stepgrandchildren, William Rybczynski and Theresa (Rybczynski) David; and seven great-stepgrandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his brother, Earl Shasteen; and two sons-in-law, Jonathan Gatz and Larry Michael.

Visitation is Friday from 2-4 and 6-9 p.m. at Mast-Mock-Hoffman Funeral Home, Defiance. Memorial services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, Defiance, with Rev. Donald L. Luhring officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Defiance, with military rites by VFW Post 3360.

Preferred memorials are to St. John Lutheran Church, Defiance.