

Melvin Walter Rupe, 89, a resident of Portland, passed away on Sunday at his residence following an extended illness. Melvin was born in Jay County, the son of Russell and Inez (Walter) Rupe. He attended Gray High School. He was a veteran of World War II. He worked at Sheller Globe from 1940-1980 and was also a full time farmer in Wayne Township. He was a Past Commander of American Legion Post 211, and was also a member of the 50-8, Moose Lodge of Portland, Eagles Lodge of Portland, DAV of Portland and the VFW of Salamonia. He married Margaret White on December 4, 1954 and she preceded him in death on August 28, 2000.

He is survived by one son, Jay Rupe of Bryant, IN; two daughters, Betty Mann (husband-Terry) of Berne, IN, and Jacqueline Kowal (husband-Ron) of Castle Rock, CO; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by one son, Max Rupe, in 1998.

Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Williamson and Spencer Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the Williamson & Spencer Funeral Home, Portland Chapel, with Pastor Herb Hummel officiating. Burial will follow at the Center Cemetery, west of Portland. Military graveside rites will be provided by American Legion Post 211.

Memorials may be directed towards Jay County Cancer, Jay County Heart of the Family Hospice and Palliative Care. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

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