

REDKEY--James R. Prater, 70, of Redkey, IN, passed away at 3:35 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, 2012 while in the company of family members at Miller's Merry Manor, Dunkirk.

Jim was born in Hiseville, KY, on April 29, 1941, a son of the late Laura (Ewing) and James H. Prater.

He served in the U.S. Army as a Sgt. in the Vietnam War. He was a 1960 graduate of Redkey High School.

He worked as a laborer at J.C.I., Portland, IN, and retired in 2007. He had worked for the city of Redkey street department and water department. He was also a member of the Redkey Volunteer Fire Department. Jim was a regular member of the Redkey Lions Club for many years and always helped anyone in need.

He was the widower of Beneva (Ward) Prater.

James is survived by a brother, Billie R. (wife-Betty) Prater of Redkey, IN; and several nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents and wife, Jim was preceded in death by two brothers, Paul and Wayne Prater, and sister, JoAnn Miller.

Funeral services are 2 p.m. Monday, March 12, 2012 at MJS Mortuaries Redkey Chapel, Redkey, IN, with Pastor Phil Dorries officiating. Friends are invited to call from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Sunday, March 11, 2012 at MJS Mortuaries Redkey Chapel.

Military graveside services will be conducted by The Randolph County Veterans at Hillcrest Cemetery, Redkey, IN.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries Redkey Chapel.

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**Contributed by Jane**