

PORTLAND, Ind. — Gerald “Jerry” Bichsel, age 79, of 2261 South 50 East, Portland, Ind., died Monday evening in the Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, Ind. He was born in Arcadia, Wis., on October 1, 1924, the son of Leo and Mary (Rebhahn) Bichsel. He was retired from Schlitz Brewery in Milwaukee and had worked at Jay County High School. He was a U.S. Navy WW II veteran and lifetime member of Ft. Recovery VFW 6515 and American Legion Post 211 in Portland. He enjoyed sports, cards, fishing and hunting.

Gerald leaves to cherish his memory three sons, Thomas Bichsel of Eau Claire, Keith Bichsel of Tehachapi, Calif., and Michael Bichsel of Portland; two daughters, Carol Klevgard of Mondovi and Jeri Ann Franks of Portland; one brother, Leo Bichsel of Eau Claire; two sisters, Rhinilla (Peggy) Tainter of Lake Geneva, Wis., and Mrs. Richard (Margaret) Jurowski of Whitehall, Wis.; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Baird-Freeman Funeral Home in Portland, Ind., with burial and military graveside rites to follow in Liber Cemetery. A visitation was held today at the funeral home.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Cancer Society.

**Contributed by James Seidelman – no source listed**