



Howard Shoemaker

1928 - 2016



Howard Shoemaker, age 88, passed away on Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at home in Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

Howard was born April 22, 1928 in Thorp, Wisconsin to Frank and Florence (Zank) Shoemaker. He grew up in rural Clark County, near Thorp in the town of Butler.

In 1939 the family moved to Alma Center where Howard attended South Alma School, a one-room school and then he went to Alma Center High School.

At age 18, Howard worked on a farm near Miles City, Montana, where the Selective Service caught up with him in 1950. He was one of the first to get drafted for the Korean War.

He became part of the 24th Infantry Division, where he advanced to platoon leader. In 1952, Howard was discharged as a sergeant.

After returning home, he resumed farming with his father. In 1953, Howard married Bonnie A. Goldsmith and they raised four children: Faith, Hal, Jon, and Curtis. After a fire devastated the family farm; Howard decided to change careers. The couple moved to Janesville, Wisconsin and he began driving for Janesville Auto Transport Co. in 1960. Howard retired in 1990 and moved up here to the Black River Falls area.

Howard was a life member in the VFW post 8494 in Alma Center. He was born with a green thumb and totally enjoyed growing things and gardening. He also enjoyed reading a good Western, collecting knives, hunting, canning, and making his award winning maple syrup. Howard spent many hours visiting with family and friends about all these things and many others. He was a real people person and he could talk with anyone.

He is survived by his daughter, Faith (Steve) Ruud, sons; Hal Shoemaker, Jon Shoemaker (Patty Hamilton), and Curtis Shoemaker, his grandchildren; Sarah, Emily

(Mike) Schumaker, Ami (Lucas) Kellison and Danielle, and three great grandchildren; Reagan, Levi, and Zeyden, and many nieces, , Frank and Florence and twelve siblings.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m., Saturday, July 2, 2016 at Jensen-Modjeski Funeral Home (128 S. Hoffman Street, Hixton, WI 54635). Burial with military honors will follow at East Lawn Cemetery in Alma Center.

Friends and family may call from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., Friday, July 1, 2016 at Jensen-Modjeski Funeral home and again from 10:00 a.m., Saturday, until time of service at the funeral home.

Jensen-Modjeski Funeral Home ([715-963-2311](tel:715-963-2311)) is assisting family with arrangements.