



Richard Helms, Sr.

August 15, 2008

Richard Helms, Sr., " Blue Jay", 79, of Pittsgrove passed away on August 15, 2008 at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia. Born in Philadelphia on January 7, 1929 to Harold B. & Clemence Helms, he came to live in Jersey at the age of five. He married his devoted and loving wife, Grace Garrison, in 1950.

Together they had four children, all of whom survive him: a daughter, Marie Hawk of Elmer, sons, Richard Helms, Jr., and his wife Diane of Elmer, Bob Helms and his wife Diane of Elmer and Charles Helms Sr., and his wife Wanda of Bridgeton, nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. His sister Dorrine Crane of Sicklerville also survives him.

Mr. Helms spent seven years of service in the U.S. Army during which time he trained as a medical technician and was honorably discharged in 1950.

Afterwards, he started working at the Jersey Package Basket Factory in Bridgeton but in 1952 he started working at Schalick Feed Mill and worked there for the next thirty-nine years. After leaving the Schalick Mills, he went to work part-time for Parvins State Park as an attendant to the entrance of the campsites.

However, in addition to his family whom he loved and cherished, he had a enormous passion and love for fishing. Owning his own boat he went as often and wherever he could. He cherished the times he had his family with him as well as his friends. Not one to shy away from any tournaments, he won two

Cumberland County Fishing Tournaments over the years. Mr. Helms was a member of the Country Road Bible Church and also a thirty year member of the Odd Fellows, Gratto Lodge, #69 in Pittsgrove. Finally, he loved working in his garden and watching the Humming Birds.

Services will be held on Thursday morning, August 21, 2008 at the Adams Funeral Home, 111 S. Main St., Elmer. The viewing will begin at 9:30am with the service following at 11am. Interment will take place at Olivet Cemetery in Pittsgrove. In lieu of flowers donations can be sent to P.O. Box 881, Elmer, NJ to assist the family. www.adamsfuneralhome.org