

Newton Frederick Straup (1927-2011)

Newton Frederick Straup, 84, residing in South Bend, passed away at 10:58 p.m. Sunday, November 6, 2011 in Arborwood Assisted Living. He was born in South Bend on September 27, 1927 to the late Frederick E. and Eva Fern (Walz) Straup, and remained a lifelong area resident.

Newt served his country honorably in the United State Air Force during World War II. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree, with a minor in Law, in 1950 from the University of Notre Dame, and then earned his Master's degree later while he worked. He retired after 37 years as the head of the Chemistry Department at the South Bend Medical Foundation.

On September 9, 1950 in South Bend, Newt married the former Joan Weaver, who survives. In addition to his loving wife, he is survived by two daughters, Diane (Paul) Thornton of South Bend and Ann (Gary) Hummel of Indianapolis; one son, Brian (Carolyn) Straup of Austin, TX; six grandchildren, Kaitlin, Brandon, Bradley, Andrew, Lyndsey and Jennifer; and four great grandchildren, Shannon, Michael, Benjamin and Molly. Newt is also survived by one sister, Janet (Steve) Wendt of Indianapolis; and two brothers, Damon (Sharon) Straup of South Bend and Wesley (Barb) Straup of Buchanan, MI.



Newt and Joan wintered in Pharr, TX for 15 years. He played drums in the RGV (Rio Grande Valley) Band and Tip O'Texas Park Orchestra. Newt was also an accomplished pianist, playing professionally since he was 18 years old. He enjoyed square dancing, bicycling, motorbike riding, camping, hiking and photography.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 12, 2011 in the Palmer Funeral Home-Hickey Chapel, 17131 Cleveland Road, South Bend. Pastor Robert Puhr from Harbor Light Hospice will officiate. Friends may visit at a time of family gathering in the funeral home from 10:00 - 11:00 am Saturday prior to services.

Expressions of sympathy on behalf of Newt may be made to the American Cancer Society of North Central Indiana, 601 W. Edison Road, Mishawaka, IN 46545. Online condolences may be offered to the Straup family at www.palmerfuneralhomes.com.

Source: Palmer Funeral Homes website.