

Roman J. Brite, 91, of Decatur, died May 21, 2009, at Woodcrest Retirement Community.

He was born July 30, 1917, in Adams County, the son of Julius and Gertrude (Geels) Brite.

Roman met his first wife, Joyce Murgartroyd, in Gloucester, England during WW II. They were married on September 23, 1944, in Moira, Ireland. She was a member of the Woman's Auxiliary Air Force for the country of England. She passed away on January 25, 1988. He married Dolores "Dorie" (Braun) Wyss on April 29, 1990, in Decatur, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons: Paul A. (Karen) Brite and Greg D. Brite, both of Decatur; three daughters: Susan L. (Ken) Fox of Momence, Illinois; Margaret (Bob) Blauvelt of Fort Wayne; and Carole Brite of Evanston, Illinois; a stepson, Joe (Cindy) Wyss of Decatur; two step-daughters, Kathy (Eldon) Fink of Centerville, Ohio, and Karen (Dan) Weber of Decatur; and a step-daughter-in-law, Amanda (Eric) Sutter of Decatur.

Other survivors include a brother, Al Brite of Indianapolis; two sisters, Marianne (Reinhard) Selking of Decatur, and Justine Walter of Fort Wayne; 14 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; 13 stepgrandchildren and one step-great-grandson.

He was preceded in death by a son, Alan Brite; a step-son, Jerry Wyss; a step-daughter, Mary Ann Wyss; a brother, John Brite; and two sisters, Frances Griffith and Sr. Regina (Margaret) Brite.

Mr. Brite was a veteran of the United States Army during WWII, serving in European Theater in the 271 Infantry from 1941-1945. He attended Pontifical College Josephinum Seminary in Columbus, Ohio from 1932 to 1935. He was a graduate of Decatur Catholic High School and was a lifelong Root Township farmer for over 60 years. He was a member of the St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, the American Legion Post # 43, Moose Lodge # 1311 and the V. F. W.

A family prayer service will be held at 9:20 a.m.

Tuesday at the Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home in Decatur, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. in the St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, with Father Benedict Kakwezi and Father David Voors officiating. Burial will be in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Friends may call from 9-10 a.m. Monday at the Woodcrest Chapel, and from 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home. A Rosary Service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Monday, with Military Graveside Honors by American Legion Post # 43 Color Guard.

Memorials are to Masses, Memorials to the St. Mary's Catholic Church or the St. Joseph Catholic School.

Contributed by Jane Edson