



Maurice A. "Gabby" Colchin, 90, of Decatur, IN passed away Saturday, November 23, 2013 at Woodcrest Nursing Center in Decatur. He was born on September 22, 1923 in Adams County, IN to the late Fredrick and Frances (Coffee) Colchin. He married Alberta C. "Bertie" Adams.

He served as a firefighter for the city of Decatur for 28 years and he was a graduate of Decatur Catholic High School. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during WWII as a Special X mechanics mate submarine torpedo specialist.

Gabby was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Msgr. J.J. Seimetz Council 864 and also its 4th Degree Assembly 257. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 43, Indiana Firefighters Association, and the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association. He was a founding member of the St. Joseph Catholic School Notre Dame Smoker. He was an active contributor to Boys Town.

"Gabby was an avid Notre Dame and Colts Football fan. He loved working in his shop at home and spending time at the lake with family and friends. He also greatly enjoyed the flavor of a good beer."

He is survived by a daughter Judy Bombka of Decatur; 2 grandsons Tim (Sharon) Bombka and Nick (Cathay) Bombka; 2 granddaughters Renee Bombka and Shelly Beer all of Decatur; 11 great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren; a sister Lois Sharp of Baldwin, MI; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by his wife Birdie Colchin in 2006, son-in-law Bob Bombka, 2 brothers, and 4 sisters.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. at Woodcrest Porter Auditorium and from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home with reciting of the Holy Rosary at 3:30 p.m. K of C 4th Degree Honor Guard will post from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. A Fireman's Memorial Service will be held at 8:00 p.m.

A Prayer Service will be held at 10:20 a.m. on Wednesday, November 27, 2013 at Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic, with Rev. Father Stephen Colchin presiding.

Burial will take place in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery with Military Graveside Rites by the American Legion Post 43.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph Catholic School Tuition Assistance.

Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home online obit (accessed 3/15/2016)