

Thomas Norton Sefton, 86, of Decatur, IN passed away at his residence on Saturday, February 25, 2012. He was born on January 5, 1926 in Anderson, IN to the late E. M. "Pete" and Kathleen (Norton) Sefton. He married Mary E. "Peg" VanHoy on October 29, 1955; she preceded him in death on January 14, 2010.

Tom was a graduate of Indiana Mortuary College. He was a U.S. Army veteran and served as a prison guard in WWII and as a civilian embalmer in the Korean Conflict.

Tom and Peg resided in Anderson for several years before moving to Decatur in 1962 to purchase Gillig-Doan & Sefton Funeral Home. In 2005 he retired from the funeral industry after 57 years of service to the community, with his last position being at Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home.

He 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 it's Fourth Degree Assembly. He was active in numerous volunteer organizations including St. Vincent DePaul.

An avid outdoorsman and sportsman, his favorite pastimes were fishing, and watching Notre Dame football and Chicago Cub's baseball. Tom was immensely proud of all of his grandchildren and especially enjoyed watching them play sports.

Tom is survived by 3 sons, Dr. Peter V. (Dr. Jayne) Sefton of Redmond, WA, Patrick E. (Susan) Sefton of Decatur and Luke A. Sefton of Sedona, AZ; 3 daughters Julie A. Sefton of North Los Vegas, NV, Jane E. Sefton of Indianapolis, and Jeanne M. (Greg) Henry of Fort Wayne; brother G. William Sefton of Grand Rapids, MI; sister Sue (Gene) Kelsey of Ft. Wayne, IN; his grandchildren, Amie, Joe, Matt, Luke, Josh and John Sefton; and a very dear person, friend & caregiver, Beth Mack of Decatur, who assisted during Tom's extended illness. He was preceded in death by his wife, infant son Joseph Sefton, and sister Mary Kay Hirt.

Visitation will be from 3:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home. A reciting of the Holy Rosary will be at 2:00 p.m. followed by a St. Vincent DePaul Memorial Service.

A 10:20 a.m. Prayer Service will be held at Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 followed by an 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church. Concelebrating will be Rev. Fr. Glenn Kohrman and Rev. Fr. David Voors and burial will take place in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Vincent DePaul, St. Joseph Catholic School and Adams Memorial Hospital Extended Care Unit.

Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home online obits (accessed 2-26-12)