

Clinton Earl Habegger died Thursday, January 3, 2008 at Swiss Village in Berne at the age of 83. Habegger was a prominent businessman and civic leader in Berne. He retired from Habegger Furniture in 2006 after 59 years of employment, 25 of those years as part owner. In 1968, Habegger and his wife with two other local couples established Amishville USA.

Habegger was a lifetime member of the First Mennonite Church of Berne where he served as the first president of the church's Mennonite Men's Fellowship and as a member of several fundraising committees. He also attended Springhill Missionary Church.

Habegger graduated from International Business College in Fort Wayne and was an army veteran of World War II. He was a past president of the Jaycees, Berne Recreation Association, and Rotary and former chairman of Berne's Democratic Party. At the time of his death he was a member of Rotary, American Legion Post 468 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6751.

Earl Habegger was born March 21, 1924 in Berne. Preceding him in death were his parents Clinton Habegger and Lydia Neuenschwander, stepmother Elta Welty, and first wife Donna Belle Roth. Habegger married Rose Huser Johnson on November 30, 1996. Survivors include his wife, three children, Luann (Ray) Martin of McLean, Virginia, Terri Coolman of Decatur, and Scott (Karen) Habegger of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; three stepchildren, 10 step grandchildren, seven step great grandchildren, and two siblings, Evelyn (James) Beitler of Berne and Howard (Marlene) Habegger of Hesston, Kansas.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Monday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m. at First Mennonite Church in Berne. Visiting hours are Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home and one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial at M.R.E. Cemetery, Berne. Military rites by Berne Post #468. Officiating is Rev. Gene Wilson, Rev. Anita Rediger.

In lieu of flowers, preferred memorials are to the First Mennonite Church Household Treasury of the Springhill Missionary Church Household Treasury.

**Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home online obit**