

Commercial Review, The (Portland, IN) - Wednesday, March 26, 2008

The Rev. James M. Patch, 72, Lexington, Ky., died Friday at Veteran Administration Medical Center in Lexington, Ky.

Born on Sept. 20, 1935, in Grant County, to H. Clarence and Martha M. (Alderton) Patch, he was a 1953 graduate of Jefferson Township High School.

He was married on Nov. 12, 1976, in Wells County to Catherine I. Miller, who survives.

A farmer for Yager Farm, he was also a truck driver for PTI and Sam Tanksly; had worked at CTS in Berne for 20 years and Bettendorf Stanford in Salem, Ill.

He began studying the ministry in 1992 and started preaching at his first church in Keystone in 1997. He also preached in Penny's Chapel and retired from Union Chapel in Decatur where he served from 1999 until his retirement in 2006.

A veteran of the United States Army, memberships include former member of Geneva Masonic Lodge No. 621 and Decatur American Legion Post No. 43.

He attended High Street United Methodist Church.

Surviving besides his wife are two daughters, Vera E. Fights, Lexington, Ky., and Vickie L. Camron, Berne; a stepdaughter, Mrs. Ken (Marjorie A.) Dawson, Geneva; three stepsons, Daniel C. Haynes and William E. Haynes, both of Hartford City, and Charles E. Haynes, Portland; a foster daughter, two brothers, Howard Patch, Jay City, and Jesse Patch, Decatur; a sister, Ruth Habegger, Berne; six grandchildren; nine stepgrandchildren; four great-grandchildren and 12 stepgreat-grandchildren.

Services are Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Downing and Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva with the Rev. James Bontrager officiating. Burial will be in West Lawn Cemetery in Geneva.

Visitation is Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at the funeral home. A Masonic service will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

Online condolences may be sent to www.glancyfuneralhomes.com.