Tommy Gierhart, 69, 812 E. Race Street, Portland, died Friday at the Jay County Hospital, following a sudden illness. Born in Portland on March 27, 1935, to William W. and Edna G. (Derrickson) Gierhart,

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he married Nellie V. Brock on July 11, 1964. She survives. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served in the Korean War. He retired from

Survivors include his wife Nellie; a son, Greg Gierhart, Portland; a daughter, Yonda Romine, Portland; two stepsons, Jesse Hicks, Arizona, and Noah Teeters, Portland; four stepdaughters, Sue Reynolds and Gail Craig, both of Portland, Zondra Hall, Kentucky, and Pam Jarvis, Ohio; four brothers, Ernest Gierhart, Portland, Roger Gierhart, Winchester, and Carl and Richard Gierhart, both of Portland; five sisters, Mrs. Carl (Laura Jean) Brickner, Colton, Calif., Mrs. Allen (Ileen) Mettler, Dunkirk, Mrs. Cletus (Doris) Duke, Portland, Mrs. Robert (Mona) Fairfield, Linden, and Wilma Boolman, Portland; 27 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. Services are Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Steve

Arnold officiating. Burial will be in the Gravel Hill Cemetery with military graveside rites by American Legion Post No. 211.

Visitation is today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the family.

Contributed by Jane Edson

Hartzell Fan in 1990.