

Harry John BEERNINK

September 4, 1929 - July 13, 2014



BEERNINK, Harry John - After a brief illness, Harry John Beernink of Arkona passed away peacefully on July 13, 2014 in his 85th year. Harry will be dearly missed by his wife of eight years, Mary (Robinson), along with his five children: Jerry Beernink, Debbie Campbell (Grant), Julie Burch (John Phelan), Cindy Aarts (Pete) and Roger Beernink (Marilyn). He also leaves behind 10 grandchildren: Jamie Campbell (Jodie), Ryan Campbell (Heather), Deborah Aarts (Gene Shannon), Chris Beernink (Kerry), Jeb Aarts (Adele), Mike Beernink (Jenna), Tim Beernink, Cam Burch, Charlie Aarts (Ashley) and Jay Burch, as well as eight great-grandchildren. Harry will also be fondly remembered by his siblings Anne Vanos, Tony Beernink, Leo Beernink, John Beernink, Ted Beernink and Willie Cook and several brothers- and sisters-in-law. He is predeceased by his wife of 51 years Diny (Vanos), as well as his daughter-in-law Bev Beernink. Harry was born in Beltrum, the Netherlands, on September 4, 1929, to Theodore and Christine Beernink-the first of seven children. In 1949, the family left their war-torn country and emigrated to Canada. Within a few years, Harry had settled in Arkona, met and wed Diny and opened Arkona Machine Shop, which he transformed from a humble welding operation into a thriving agricultural equipment dealership. Harry was passionate about many things, among them the Lion's Club (of which he was a proud member for decades), Arkona's Taxandria hall (which he helped found), summer trips to his beloved Cooper Lake and winters at Carefree Country Club in Winterhaven, Florida. He loved catching up with old friends, engaging in lively debate about politics or business and consummate salesman that he was-working a "deal." He was seldom happier than when enjoying a meal with his ever-growing family, cold drink in hand, with a Walter Ostanek polka playing in the background. "In heaven, there is no beer. That's why we drink it here. Visitation will be held at GILPIN FUNERAL CHAPEL (123 King Street E., Forest, Ont.) on Tuesday, July 15th from 4:00pm to 8:00pm with an Arkona Lion's Service starting at 3:30pm. Funeral mass will take place at St. Christopher's Catholic Church (68 Union Street, Forest, Ont.) on Wednesday, July 16th at 11:00am. Interment at Arkona Cemetery with Father Tom Donohue officiating. In lieu of flowers, Harry's family would appreciate donations to St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia-Lambton. Share a memory or condolence at www.gilpinfuneralchapel.com

**No Events Scheduled At This
Time**