

OBITUARIES

John Gehler

LEADERTELEGRAM.COM

John R. Gehler passed away on Thursday, December 31st, 2015. John Robert Gehler was



born on May 22nd, 1927, in Ladysmith, WI, to Geo. Edward and Fern (Ferguson) Gehler. He attended school in Ladysmith and graduated in 1945. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served abroad on the USS Pawnee from June 1945 to August 1946 as an Electrician's Mate. In 2013 John went on the "Never Forgotten Honor Flight" to Washington, D.C., with his son Jim as his guardian. John called it the trip of a lifetime being able to see all the War Memorials.

John was employed by the Ladysmith Post Office from 1946 to 1982. He was named Post Master in February 1974 and held that position until his retirement in December 1982 after 36 years of service. He and Elaine (Jakobek) were married in Iowa and were together 68½ years. To this union were born sons James and Thomas. John had just completed 33 years of retirement, which he and Elaine spent traveling and enjoying life.

John's hobbies were fishing, photography, woodworking and listening to "Old Time Music." He was a man of many talents. He enjoyed spending time at the cottage on Boot Lake with family and friends and many years as host cottage for the Annual Pig Roast on Boot Lake. Also important to him was meeting his morning coffee friends at

McDonald's to help solve the world's problems. John was a Charter Member with the Ladysmith Lions, serving with them for 44 years. He received the Knights of Sight award, the highest award the Lions Eye Bank of WI presents for his volunteer transports for over 40 years.

Survivors include his wife, Elaine; son, James (Joan) Gehler; grandchildren, Julie (Mitch) Kreyer and Jason Gehler; great-grandchildren, Ashley and Brandon Kreyer; and great-great-grandson, Landyn Kreyer; step-grandsons, Jordan (Lissa Ziehr) Wolfe and Justin Wolfe; and step-great-granddaughter, Sophia Ziehr.



He was preceded in death by his parents, an infant sister and son Thomas (1966).

It was John's wish not to have a funeral. A celebration of life will be held instead on Saturday, January 9th, 2016, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Nash-Jackan Funeral Home in Ladysmith.

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Never Forgotten Honor Flight

O. O. Box 5086

Wausau, Wisconsin

54402-5086

Gentlemen:

John R. Gehler, (my husband)
passed away on December 31,
2015. I have enclosed an obituary.

John was on the Honor Flight
(from Wausau) of September 9, 2013.
He enjoyed it immensely! Our
son (James A. Gehler) was his
Guardian and felt it was the
best money he ever spent.

Therefore, we would like to
donate the entire sum enclosed,
to this worthy project.

Thank you.

The Family of
John Gehler
(Gaine Gehler)
Spouse
