March 22, 1946 - Feb. 11, 2013

John “David” Whittington, 66, of Gomer, passed away at 1:47 p.m. Monday from a massive heart attack at Lima Memorial Hospital.

He was born on March 22, 1946, in Lima to John and Norma (Notter) Whittington, who preceded him in death.

He was united in marriage to Linda Jane Renner, who survives in Gomer.

Other survivors include a daughter, Cynthia Lynn (Scott) Neubert of Delphos; a sister, Nancy (Larry) Miller of Lima; two grandsons, Evan John Neubert and Alex David Neubert; a sister-in-law, Jill (Arnold) Renner; and three nieces and three nephews.

He was also preceded in death by his grandparents, Thomas and Mabel (Ballard) Whittington, Penegoes, North Wales; great-grandparents, Thomas and Sara Whittington and Richard and Bernice Notter; and brother-in-law, Allen Keith Renner.

Mr. Whittington was a teacher at Perry Local Schools and Delphos Jefferson High School, where he taught science, biology and anatomy and was a guidance counselor. He lectured Indian relic adult education courses at Vantage Vocational School and Science Methods at the OSU Lima Campus. He also served as a student teacher supervisor at OSU Lima campus. He was a harness racing clerk at Shelby, Putnam and Allen County fairs and volunteered as a juvenile probation officer and teacher for the Lima Juvenile Court.

He was a member of the Gomer United Church or Christ, the Ohio State Alumni Association, Allen County Go-Bucks Club and Welsh Society of Northwest Ohio, serving as the current president; past member of the Lima Emergency Planning Commission, National Association of Biology Teachers and Ohio Academy of Science Olympiads at OSU; judged local, regional and state science fairs; and directed marine biology camps on Andros Island, Bahamas. He was awarded the N.W. Ohio Science Teacher of the Year, National Association’s Biology Teacher of the Year, Lima Senior High School Hall of Fame and Honorary Wildcat Award at Jefferson.

Mr. Whittington graduated from Lima Senior High School in 1964, the Ohio State University in 1968 and the University of Dayton in 1972, where he earned his masters degree in guidance.

He enjoyed reading, gardening, harness horse racing, traveling, boxing, gambling and antiquing. He was an avid Indian relic historian and collector.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the Gomer United Church of Christ the Rev. David Howell and Brian Knoderer officiating. Burial will follow in the Pike Run and Tawelfan Cemetery in Gomer.

Visitation will be from 3-8 p.m. on Friday at Harter and Schier Funeral Home and one hour prior to services Saturday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Welsh Society of Northwest Ohio.