J. Richard Hurt MD of West Jefferson passed away Monday, May 20, 2013, peacefully from natural causes in The Villages, Florida.

Dr. Hurt is survived by his beloved spouse of 56 years, Sally (Dienstberger) Hurt; son John R. Hurt, MD, cardiologist in The Villages, Fla.; and daughter, Sharyl (Hurt) LeFavour, teacher in California; daughter-in-law, Sonia R. Hurt, pediatrician and son-in-law, CAPT John W. LeFavour, US Navy hospital administrator.

In addition, he is survived by grandchildren Elizabeth LeFavour, Jack LeFavour, Grace Hurt and Sean Hurt. He is also survived by brother-in-law, Carl F. Dienstberger, Jr. of Delphos; cousin Cynthia Lockhart of Maryland; cousin Leslie Dienstberger and Doris Dienstberger of Delphos; as well as numerous other Dienstberger relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. J. William Hurt of West Jefferson; and his father- and mother-in-law, Carl and Mollie Dienstberger of Delphos.

Dr. Hurt and Sally were married at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Delphos in 1957 after finishing medical school and nursing school at The Ohio State University. After a one-year internship at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, he completed a two-year tour of duty in Taiwan, accompanied by Sally, serving in the navy as a lieutenant in the medical corps. Their son, Rick, was born in Taiwan in 1960 and daughter, Shari, was born in Columbus in 1965. Dr. Hurt joined his father's medical practice in West Jefferson. During his years serving as a physician there, Dr. Hurt participated in numerous community service organizations including Kiwanis, Masons, Scottish Rite and Shrine. He served on the local school board, county school board, Columbus Technical Institute board (now known as Columbus State Community College), and the OSU Medical School Board of Governors. He was team physician for the West Jefferson Rough Riders football team for 25 years, during which time they captured a state championship. Dr. Hurt was an active member of the West Jefferson Zion Lutheran Church. Dr. Hurt and Sally raised English Shire draft horses and brought his team and wagon to Delphos to participate in a parade.

The funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. Friday at Zion Lutheran Church, with a graveside and military service to follow.

Visitation will be at the Rader-McDonald Funeral Home in West Jefferson from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, with a Masonic service at 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the Hurt family suggests memorial contributions be made to: Zion Lutheran Church, 221 South Center St., West Jefferson OH 43162; The National Parkinson Foundation, contribution instructions can be found at www.parkinson.org; or Hurt-Battelle Memorial Library, 270 Lilly Chapel Rd., West Jefferson, Ohio 43162