April 12, 1916 - Oct. 19, 2012
Joseph L. Knippen, 96, of Delphos, died Friday at the Van Wert Inpatient Hospice Center.
He was born April 12, 1916, in Cloverdale to George and Caroline (Miller) Knippen.
On Jan. 3, 1948, he married Agnes Gasser, who died on Jan. 6, 2008.
Survivors include a son, Douglas (Melissa) Knippen of Van Wert; a daughter, Doris Showalter of Bowling Green; a sister, Margaret Hesseling of Delphos; a brother, George Knippen of Ottoville; three grandchildren, Nick (Julia) Showatlter of Columbus, Kristen (Joel) McClosky of Asheboro, N.C., and Brent Showalter of Fort Walton Beach, Fla; a great-grandchild, Lydia Showalter of Columbus; and Deloris Klapperish of Seattle, Cathy Lammers of Spencerville and Susan Kiene of Lambertville, Mich., who lived with the Knippen family for five years.
He was also preceded in death by brothers, the Rev. Charles Knippen, William Knippen Sr, and Sylvester “Pork” Knippen; and five sisters, Agnes Kehres, Sr. Mary Vita, Sr. Mary Berhcman, Sr. Mary Leonarda and Lucille Pohlman.
Mr. Knippen was a grain and livestock farmer and retired when he was 80. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of the K of C since December 1941, was a Reds fan, loved to laugh and to make people laugh and always a believer the glass was half full.
Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, the Rev. Chris Bohnsack officiating. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery.
Friends may call from 2-8 p.m. Monday at Harter and Schier Funeral Home, where a K of C service will begin at 7 p.m.
Preferred memorials are to St. John’s Church or the Van Wert Inpatient Hospice Center.