

Robert "Bob" Luther Kraft, (4 Jan 1928 – 21 Dec 2006), Patriot-News, Sunday, December 24, 2006

Robert "Bob" Luther Kraft, 78, of Dauphin, passed away peacefully at his son's home on December 21, 2006, just prior to his 79th birthday.

He was born January 4, 1928, in Newport, to the late **Ralph L.** and **Burdella (Ferguson) Kraft**.

He graduated from Newport High School in 1945 and joined the Navy in 1946. He was discharged in December of 1947. Bob managed several Weis Markets after being discharged from the Navy and purchased the Dauphin Weis Market in 1955. In 1959, he purchased his second food Market in Elizabethville and in 1961, his third Market in Williamstown. In 1972, Bob sold the stores to Lynn's Markets, a division of Handy Markets. Bob was the Meat Supervisor for Lynn's Markets for two years and then went to work for M&S Distributing Company in the Seafood Department. He then later became manager of the Seafood Department until his retirement in 1988.

Bob was one of the five men who did ground work to establish the Dauphin/ Middle Paxton Lions Club. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Dauphin for a few years in the late 1960's and early 1970's. Bob was the area volunteer Red Cross Leader for the Dauphin/Middle Paxton area. In 1972, during Hurricane Agnes, he was instrumental in seeing that the Dauphin/Middle Paxton area received its supply of food staples and medicines.

He married **Shirley Kay Longsderff** on June 4, 1949. Shirley passed away May 12, 2003. He was also preceded in death by his sister, **Evelyn Dimm**.

Surviving are two sons, **R. Michael Kraft** and his wife, **Becki** of Dauphin and **Jeffrey Kraft** of Jacksonville, FL. He is also survived by 8 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Bob enjoyed shopping, cooking, walking, boating and at one time horseback riding.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 10 a.m. from the Zion Lutheran Church, Dauphin, with Rev. Dr. Randolph W. Barr officiating. Burial will be in the Newport Cemetery. Viewings will be from 6-8 p.m., Tuesday from the David Myers Funeral Home, Newport and Wednesday from 9-10 a.m., at the church.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Zion Lutheran Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 5, Dauphin, PA 17018.

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