

# Jay William Gates

**October 14, 1927 — August 21, 2013**

Jay William Gates, formerly of Boardman, Ohio, passed away peacefully in the Hospice House on Sharrott Road, Poland, Ohio on Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

Mr. Gates was born October 14, 1927 in Logansport, Indiana, the son of Jay Warren and Mary Marguerite Blakely Gates. Mr. Gates married Roberta A. Bragg on December 13, 1969 in Marion, Indiana.

He began his professional career with Micro-Switch in Freeport, Illinois, and continued on to General Motors as a designer in 1959 in Marion, Indiana, and was transferred to the Lordstown, Ohio, plant in 1970. He was a Manufacturing Design Engineer at the Lordstown Fabricating Plant (formerly Fisher Body) retiring in 1992. He continued as a contract engineer at General Motors until 2005.

Mr. Gates was a proud United States Army Veteran serving as a Cavalry Sergeant in Japan at the end of World War II. He was a member of Evangel Baptist Church in Boardman and was a dedicated volunteer with several organizations throughout his life. He never wanted recognition for his many silent and selfless acts of kindness. Mr. Gates enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, NASCAR, the Chicago Cubs, the Cleveland Browns, quietly serving the Lord and spending time with his cherished family and friends. He loved spending time in Myrtle Beach and going on cruises to many ports of call.

Mr. Gates is survived by his wife, Roberta Bragg Gates; two sons, Lorin P. Gates (Susan), Ridgefield, Washington and Jay R. (J.D.) Gates (Julie), New Hampshire; two granddaughters, Ashtyn and Kayleigh Gates, Ridgefield, Washington; a brother, Richard A. Gates (Rose), Apache Junction, Arizona; and four nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Elizabeth Hafley, Canton, Michigan.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 24, 2013 in the Warrick-Kummer-Rettig Funeral Home, Columbiana, Ohio with Pastor Randy Brunko officiating. The Benjamin Firestone Post #290 American Legion will accord military honors.

## **A Good Man**

by the Hoosier Poet, James Whitcomb Riley

A good man never dies--  
In worthy deed and prayer  
And helpful hands, and honest eyes,  
If smiles or tears be there:  
Who lives for you and me--  
Lives for the world he tries  
To help--he lives eternally.

A good man never dies.  
Who lives to bravely take  
His share of toil and stress,  
And, for his weaker fellows' sake,  
Makes every burden less,--  
He may, at last, seem worn--  
Lie fallen--hands and eyes  
Folded--yet, though we mourn and mourn,  
A good man never dies.