

ROY FRANK CHAPLIN

June 24, 1923 - Oct. 1, 2004

Former Kokomo resident Roy F. "Chappy" Chaplin, 81, died in his St. Petersburg, Fla., home Oct. 1, 2004. He was born June 24, 1923, in Kokomo, a son of Earl J. and Nora L. (Allison) Chaplin. He married Betty Chaplin on Nov. 2, 1972, and she survives.

He was a graduate of Kokomo High School class of 1942 and then joined the U.S. Army and served honorably in the 15th Air Corps, stationed in Berri, Italy, during World War II. He earned the American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and the Victory Medal. Following his discharge, he worked and retired from the Kokomo Fire Department in 1965. He continued to work for the city as a building inspector for an additional seven years before retiring to Florida in 1972. He was a proud public servant and one of the original First Aid (Ambulance) Crewman for the KFD.

He was a past master of Northside Lodge 288 FA&M, St. Petersburg, Fla., a member of the Tampa Scottish Rite 32 Degree and the Egypt Temple Shrine of Tampa, Fla. He was also a member of the VFW 1152 and American Legion Post 6 in Kokomo. He enjoyed fishing, playing the piano and the organ.

Roy was a dedicated husband to his wife of 31 years, Betty Chaplin, St. Petersburg, Fla.; a loving father to his sons, Roy and wife Toby Chaplin of Kokomo, Fred and wife Deb Chaplin of Stuart, Fla., Dan and wife Janet Chaplin of Kokomo, Brad and wife Kathy Chaplin of Greentown; his sister, Alice and husband Earl Gold of Lamonte, Ill.; his stepchildren, Linda Drook of Indianapolis, William Harper of Keizer, Ore., and Robert Harper of St. Petersburg, Fla.; his grandchildren, Troy Chaplin, Jason Chaplin and Ryan Chaplin, all of Kokomo, Kameron Chaplin and Brooke and Brad Arthur of Greentown, Nick Chaplin and Katie Chaplin of Stuart, Fla., Tracy and Danny Harms of Fairbury, Ill., Stacy and Tony Darlin of Rossville, and Jeremy and Shannon Chaplin of Shreveport, La.; his great-grandchildren, Zackary Chaplin of Kokomo, Hunter Darlin, Saige Darlin and Avery Darlin of Rossville, Brody Arthur of Greentown, Taylor Chaplin of Indianapolis, and Ragan Chaplin of Shreveport, La., several nieces and nephews; and his special poodle, Fonz. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, John and Fred Chaplin; a half-brother, Robert Cade; and two sisters, Virginia M. and Mary Elizabeth Chaplin.

Memorial services are scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday at Sunset Memory Garden Funeral Home, 2097 W. Alto Road, with the Rev. Ron DeGraff officiating. Burial will follow at Crown Point Cemetery with Kokomo VFW Military Rites team giving a final military salute. Friends may call from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday before the funeral. If you would like to offer a condolence online, please do so at www.mem.com.