

John Schaeffer - Dec. 5, 1927 - April 7, 2018
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BELLEVUE



John Schaeffer, 90, residing in Bellevue, passed away Saturday morning, April 7, 2018, in Willows At Bellevue after a lengthy illness. John was born Dec. 5, 1927, in Parkertown, Ohio, to Edward and Margaret (Whitmore) Schaeffer.

After attending Merry's School House, a one-room schoolhouse, John graduated in 1946 from Milan High School and attended The Ohio State University. He began his farming career in dairy and eventually moved into general farming. John was one of the first in the area to adopt no-till farming.

He served as the Erie County Commissioner for one term and retired as the Erie County Recorder after serving five terms. John was a member of St. John's United Church of Christ, where he served on the church council and as an adult Sunday school teacher for many years. He was also active in the wider U.C.C. church. John was a founding member of the Historic Lyme Village and the Heritage Society of Erie County. He was also a member of the Ohio Recorder's Association, serving as president, the Sandusky Rotary Club, Erie County Soil & Water Conservation District and inducted into the Ohio Supervisor Hall of Fame in 2008. He was a member of Erie Basin Resource Conservation & Development, N.E. Oxford Farm Bureau Council, Firelands Historical Society, Erie County Democratic Party, where he had been an active member for many years, Federal Land Bank, American Red Cross, Serving Our Seniors and the Civil Air Patrol.

John was deeply committed to the community and passionate about the preservation of the local history. In his spare time, he enjoyed storytelling, guns, flying, (received his pilot's license) and spending time with his family and friends.

John is survived by his wife, Alvina (Crecelius) Schaeffer, whom he married Aug. 7, 1949; sons, Bill (Terri) Schaeffer, Dan (Gwen) Schaeffer and Kevin (Sahodra) Schaeffer all of Bellevue; daughter, Karen (Lee) Kautz of Oxford Township; 10 grandchildren, Sarah, Melanie, Tracy, Andrea, Evan, Leah, Dana, Erica, Frankie and Jesse; six great-grandchildren, Jack, Alexis, Kylie, Meredith, Max and Alianna; brother, Eugene Schaeffer of Milan; sister-in-law, Bernita Schaeffer of Sandusky; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by one infant son, Edwin; grandson, Jonathan Schaeffer in 2013; sister, Mary (Mac) McAllister; brother, Robert Schaeffer; and sister-in-law, Darlene Schaeffer.

Friends may call 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, at Groff Funeral Homes & Crematory Milan Chapel, 1 S. Main St. Milan. Friends may also call from 10 a.m. Thursday, April 12, until funeral services at 11 a.m., at St. John's United Church of Christ, 2712 Mason Road, Milan. The Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney will officiate. Burial will follow in St. John's UCC Cemetery, Milan. Those wishing to contribute to John's memory may do so to St. John's UCC, 2712 Mason Road, Milan, OH 44846; Historic Lyme Village, P.O. Box 342, Bellevue, OH 4481; or to the Heritage Society of Erie County, 2300 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870. Condolences may be shared with the family at grofffuneralhomes.com.