

## Raymond Henkelman, 72

*Dec. 14, 1928 - Feb. 22, 2001*

**DEFIANCE** – Raymond Daniel Henkelman, son of Louis and Anne (McCaffery) Henkelman, was born Dec. 14, 1928, in Manilla. Ray was baptized at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manilla, and later confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He attended school at St. Paul's Catholic School in Defiance. April 15, 1948, he entered the United States Navy where he served his country during the Korean Conflict until his honorable discharge April 10, 1952.

Ray married Helen Ferguson Feb. 19, 1955, in Colorado Springs, CO. To this union five children were born. After his honorable discharge, he worked as a Union Brick Mason in Chicago, IL. He then took a position with the General Service Administration for the United States Post Office in Chicago. He and his family then moved to Fort Lauderdale, FL, where he worked for the Veteran's Hospital Engineering Division. After the death of his wife, Nov. 16, 1991, he moved to Lakeland, FL, and formed Henkelman Construction Company with three of his sons. In 1994, he retired and moved back to Defiance.

Feb. 25, 1995, he married Betty Feser in Las Vegas, NV. The couple made their home in Defiance. He was a past member and Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Post 3080 of Fort Lauderdale, FL, and the Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post No. 8002 of Lakeland, FL. He was currently a member of the 3rd Degree of Knights of Columbus, Earling Council No. 1741, the American Legion Post No. 707 of Defiance, and the St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He died at his home in Defiance, Feb. 22, 2001, at age 72 years, two months and eight days.

In addition to his parents and his first wife, Helen, he was preceded in death by his brother, Harold. He is survived by his wife, Betty Henkelman of Defiance; his children, Debra (Buddy) Underwood of Dothan, AL; Ronald Henkelman (Celeste) of Lakeland, FL; Gregory Henkelman of Lakeland, FL; Bruce Henkelman (Cynthia) of Corpus Christi, TX and Gary Henkelman of Lakeland, FL; eight grandchildren; one great grandchild; Betty's children, Mary Ann (Dennis) Anastasi of Defiance; Gary (Becky) Feser of Irwin; Dale Feser and his friend, Lanae of Waseca, MN; and Tom Feser of Harlan; Betty's three grandchildren; his brother and sisters, Francis Henkelman (Mary Jane) of Defiance; Ardith (Bob) Schaben of Defiance; Mary (LaVerne) Schmitz of Defiance; Loretta (Joe Ray) Kenkel of Dunlap; Dorothy (Max) Kenkel of Earling and Agnes (Jay) Menze of Warrensburg, MO; his sister-in-law, Pat Henkelman of Oxford; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Ruby Huen of Carroll; Ruth Ferguson of Omaha, NE; Carl (Lola) Ferguson of Texas; Roscoe Ferguson of Dunlap; Ralph and Virginia Ferguson on Indiana; Ed and Senna Ferguson of Missouri and Marvin Ferguson of Dunlap; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 26, 2001, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Casket bearers were Gary Henkelman, Dennis Anastasi, Bruce Henkelman, Ronald Henkelman, Gary Feser and Gregory Henkelman. Burial was held March 2, 2001, in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Lakeland, FL. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

