

Eugene Schieffer, 80

Sept. 2, 1931 - April 9, 2012

SIERRA VISTA, AZ — Eugene (Gene) A. Schieffer, 80, of Sierra Vista, AZ, formerly of Irwin, passed away in the early morning hours of April 9, 2012 at Solace House in Sierra Vista after a prolonged illness.

Gene was born on September 2, 1931 in Breda to Vincent and Wilma Schieffer. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War, attaining the rank of Sergeant. After his Honorable Discharge in 1952, he worked at the United States Postal Service until retirement in 1987, after serving as Postmaster in several Iowa towns.

Eugene married Lorraine Riesberg on May 9, 1953 in Halbur and celebrated nearly 59 years of marriage. He had a passion for his grandchildren, and for community service. He was active in Scouting, earning the Award of Merit and Silver Beaver. He was also a life member of the American Legion and VFW in Carroll, IA and Sierra Vista, AZ. Gene and Lorraine spent many years in Carroll and Irwin. In 1994, Gene and Lorraine moved to Sierra Vista, where Gene was an active and devoted member of Elks Lodge #2065. Gene dedicated countless hours of service to his community, including driving for the Sierra Vista Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program and helping with numerous Elks projects.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents Vincent and Wilma (Hamilton) Schieffer, daughter-in-law Geri (Bill) Schieffer, and siblings Dorothy (Fritz) Julich and Lawrence Schieffer. Gene is survived by his wife Lorraine Schieffer of Sierra Vista, AZ; children Michael Schieffer of Wildomar, CA, Bill Schieffer of Sanger, TX, Gary (Denise) Schieffer of Columbus Junction, Alan Schieffer of Ames, David (Stacy) Schieffer of Shawnee, KS, Jenny (Brian) Becker of Arlington, NE, Amy Eichperger of Hemet, CA and Chris Schieffer of Rochester, MN; siblings Lorraine (Tommy) Duckworth of Springfield, MO, Vincent Jr. (DeLores) Schieffer, Creston, Mary Nell Johnson, Lakeside, CA, Sharon (Morry) Baier, Sierra Vista, AZ, and Diane (Mike) Cross, Clovis, CA; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gene was known for his fun loving ways and enjoyed the laughter of others. He had no shame in playing the fool if he got a laugh. The joke was always on him - never at the expense of others. Gene brought laughter and happiness to all who knew him. Wherever Gene was, there was a card game and today there is a card game in Heaven.

Gene's family wishes to extend their sincere thanks to the staff of Solace House for their compassionate care and concern over the final weeks of Gene's life. They not only cared for Gene, but also embraced and watched over Lorraine and the rest of the family.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of the Mountains Catho-



lic Church in Sierra Vista, AZ on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. The family invites everyone to gather at the Elks Lodge # 2065, 1 Elks Lane, Sierra Vista immediately following the church service, where a memorial to celebrate Gene's life will begin at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be directed to the Gene Schieffer Memorial Fund c/o Eldercare For Life, 6164 S. Hwy. 92, Hereford, AZ 85615. Friends and family may write memories and sign the online guestbook at geneschieffer.lifememory.com.