

JOHN MICHAEL LUCAS, 91 BELOIT, Wis. –

John Michael Lucas, 91, of Beloit, WI, died Wednesday, February 12, 2014, at Beloit Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his family, after a sudden illness. He was born January 14, 1923, in Beloit WI; the son of Emmanuel and Garefalia (Kelafas) Lucas. He married Elaine Rippie on February 10, 1951, in Beloit, WI.

John was a 1941 graduate of Beloit Memorial High School. He served his country in the Army Air Corp, joining December 9, 1942, and was honorably discharged February 18, 1946, with the rank of sergeant.

John managed the Gateway Bowling Alley. He then worked at Warner Electric. In 1952, he opened the Grand Cafe which became a favorite breakfast and lunch spot in downtown Beloit. He retired in 1989 after 37 years in the restaurant business. That retirement lasted about three months. He was asked to come to work at The Landing. He was there for 8 years. When Fazoli's in Beloit opened he began working there until it closed in 2007. He retired for the second time at the age of 84.

John was a devoted Chicago Bears and Cub fan. He also was an avid bowler as well as a sponsor for many teams. He was inducted into the Beloit Bowling Hall of Fame in 1973. He enjoyed his many trips to Las Vegas to do a little gambling and going to Wal-Mart three times a week to walk. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family. His great-granddaughters always put a big smile on his face.

He will be greatly missed. Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Elaine; daughter, Chris (Ron) Throndsen of Indianapolis, IN; son, Randy (Shirley) Loomis of Beloit; grandchildren, Jeremy (Sarah) Loomis of West Bend, WI, Tyler (Jen) Loomis of St Louis, MO, Eric (Nicki) Throndsen, St. Croix, MN, Neil (Annie) Throndsen Cottage Grove, MN; great-granddaughters, Abigail, Allison and Avery; and sister-in-law, Jenny Lucas Beloit.<br>He was predeceased by his parents; brother, Gus and sister-in-law, Marika Lucas; brother, Frank; sister, Ardine and brother-in-law, George Mavroulis. The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses in the Critical Care unit at Beloit Memorial Hospital for their wonderful care of John.

Funeral service will be 1 p.m. Monday, February 17, 2014, in the Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium, 2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, with Reverend Gene Van Galder officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the time of service Monday in the funeral home. Military rites will be accorded by the VFW Post #2306