

William Hobokan, Hackettstown mayor

William Hobokan, 74, of Port St. Lucie, Fla., formerly of Hackettstown, died Tuesday, March 5, in St. Lucie Medical Center, Port St. Lucie.

He was a chemical engineer for Ashland Oil in Alphano and served as the mayor of Hackettstown from 1969 to 1975.

Born March 22, 1927, in Phillipsburg, he resided in Hackettstown before moving to Port St. Lucie 11 years ago.

He served in the Navy as a motor machinist mate third class during World War II from 1944 to 1946. He trained in Samson, N.Y., Gulfport, Miss. and Deloit, Wis., and served in the NRS, New York, N.Y. and NTS in Samson, N.Y.

He was a 1951 graduate of Wagner College in Staten Island, N.Y.

He was a member of the Hackettstown Council from 1967 to 1968 and from 1989 to 1991, was a past commander of American Legion Post 318 in Port St. Lucie, a past governor of the Moose Lodge in Hackettstown, a member of the Moose Lodge 1690 in Jensen Beach, Fla., and a member of the Fort Pierce Amvets Post 15.

A member of committees and activities too numerous to list, he was credited with advocating a strong local fire department, police department, worked to establish a town pool and supported the POW/MIA effort and various other veteran support organizations and was a lobbyist for both oil industry and sportsman concerns.

He is survived by his wife, the former Rosemarie Whelan; three sons, Keith and Kurt of Hackettstown and Kent of Edison, N.J.; three daughters, Karyl Masar of Sebring, Fla., Kourtney Batchelder of Columbia, and Klaudia of Columbus, Ohio; three stepdaughters, Kathleen Coopersmith of Walnut Creek, Calif., Linda Bell of Rockaway, N.J., and Diane Amaral of Ellicott City, Md.; two stepsons, Robert Whelan of Hackettstown and William Whelan of Califon; and 19 grandchildren.

His first wife, Joan; and a daughter, Kandice Michniewicz, died earlier.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Cochran Funeral Home, 905 High St., Hackettstown. Call from 1 p.m. Sunday to time of services in the funeral home.

Burial will be in Hackettstown Union Cemetery.

The family requests memorials to the American Legion Post 318, 8543 S. E. Federal Highway, Port St. Lucie, FL 34952.

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