



# Wilbur R. Bierbaum

**Godfrey | Monday, February 7 2011**

Wilbur R. Bierbaum, 83, passed away at 9:07 pm Monday, February 7, 2011 at Alton Memorial Hospital in Alton.

He was born on December 5, 1927 in Fosterburg, IL, the son of William Ernest and Josephine Johanna (Weinish) Bierbaum.

He married Shirley J. Whipple on July 3, 1960 in Shawneetown, IL. They just celebrated 50 years of marriage. She survives.

Wilbur attended Alton High School. He served his country as a seaman in the Merchant Marines from 1945 to 1946. He then was in the U.S. Army from January 22, 1952 to December 23, 1953, serving in England in the motor pool. He was an electrician for Owens Illinois Glass in Alton for 25 years, and then opened Bierbaum Steel in Godfrey for 35 years. He was a member of the Alton VFW Post 1308, Alton American Legion 354, Alton Eagles F.O.E. 254 and Alton/Wood River Sportsman Club. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, playing cards with his buddies, eating breakfast out with his friends and most of all spending time with his family and friends.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and Jim Mareing of Godfrey; a granddaughter and her boyfriend, Annie Muehlheuster of Godfrey and Brooke Moody of Wood River; his sister, Darlene Kruse of Fosterburg; a sister-in-law, Ella Bierbaum of Wood River; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Ed and Anita Whipple of Eldorado, IL.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Laverna Wehrman and two brothers, Harold and Orville Bierbaum.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 pm Thursday, February 10, 2011 at Elias, Kallal & Schaaf Funeral Home in Godfrey. Funeral services will be at 11 am Friday, February 11, 2011 at the funeral home.

Burial will follow at Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey with full military rites given by Alton VFW Post 1308.

Memorials may be made to the National Kidney Foundation or the American Heart Association.

Online Condolences and guest book may be found at [www.eliaskallalandschaaf.com](http://www.eliaskallalandschaaf.com)