Thomas R. Holmay,


Thomas R. Holmay, 82, of Winona passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014.

Thomas was born Feb. 7, 1931, in Winona, to Joseph and Myrtle (Hoppe) Holmay. He married Esther Hatlevig on Aug. 22, 1953. They had five daughters and celebrated 46 years of marriage prior to Esther’s death in 2000.

He honorably served his country with the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Roanoke. When returning to the states, he worked alongside his father at Holmay Motors and completed his career at Winona State University, retiring in 1994. Tom was an avid outdoorsman, and his hobbies included hunting, fishing and supporting his grandson’s stock car racing team. He spent countless hours completing home projects for his daughters. Tom will always be remembered for his honesty, quick wit and famous “one-liners.”

Tom is survived by his children, Debbie (Dan Skelton) Brink, Winona, Sandy (Bob Frick) Schmieg, Winona, Mary (Greg) Tyler, Plano, Texas, Lori (Scott) Jackels, Winona and Terri (Orrin) Brown, Winona; grandchildren, Tom (Beth), Tina (Andy), Jeremy (Stephanie), Terri Lynn, Lindsey (Forrest), Lauren (Todd), Marcus, Rachel, Nicole, Melissa, Jordan, Katie, Alec and Tim; great-grandchildren, Tyler, Ben, Teagan and Jude; sister, Jean (Joe) Schubert, Onalaska; brother, Steve (Diane) Holmay, Winona; sister-in-law, Evelyn (Eugene) O’Brien, Winona; numerous nieces and nephews; as well as other relatives and friends, especially his racing crew and his hunting and fishing buddies.

He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, sister, Arlene Holst; brother-in-law, Earl Holst; great-grandchild, Beck Patterson; and infant brother, Robert.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Watkowski-Mulyck Funeral Home. The Reverend Monsignor Thomas J. Hargesheimer will officiate. Tom will be laid to rest in St. Mary’s Cemetery, where the American Legion Leon J. Wetzel Post 9 will provide full military honors. Visitation will be held from 12:30 p.m. until time of services Saturday at the funeral home. The family respectfully requests that memorials be directed to a charity of the donor’s choice. Online condolences or memories may be left for Tom’s family at www.watkowski-mulyck.com. Entrusted to our care — Watkowski-Mulyck Funeral Home.