Kenneth Alvin Wynia

Kenneth Alvin Wynia, 80, of Winona died Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012, at his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Kenneth was born Sept. 9, 1931, in Albert Lea, to Alvin and Agnes (Swatosh) Wynia. He graduated from Austin High School in 1950. On June 7, 1952, he married Marilyn Reed. Kenneth joined the U.S. Army on July 10, 1952, where he served until July 13, 1954. In the early 1960s, Kenneth and Marilyn moved their family to Winona, where he began working as a carpenter for Winona State University. He worked at WSU for 40 years, retiring in 2001 and starting Ken’s Carpentry, where he continued to work until 2011. Kenneth was a member of the American Legion.

His passion was carpentry; he was always building something for someone else. He also enjoyed traveling, camping at the Pla-Mor campground and his hobby farm of exotic animals. He loved to laugh and make others laugh. He could talk to anyone, even people he just met, for hours.

Kenneth is survived by his wife, Marilyn; children, Gary (Rena) of St. Petersburg, Fla., Susan (Ralph) Hempfner of Winona, Cheryl (Kendal) Harvey of Winona, Sharon (John) Schumacher of Houston, Karen (Jerry) Schueler of Winona, Brad (Lisa) of La Crescent, Kim (Bruce) Potter of Lewiston and Brett (Sherry) of Onalaska; 27 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; sister, Lois (Paul) Levandowski of Michigan; brothers, Glen of Tennessee and Paul of Minnesota; many nieces, nephews and friends. Kenneth will also be sadly missed by his three dogs, Penny, Niki and Jenny.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Shirley Anair.

Funeral service will be 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at Hoff Funeral & Cremation Service — Hansen Goodview Chapel, with the American Legion Leon J. Wetzel Post 9 performing full military honors immediately following. Lunch will follow at the Elks Lodge. Visitation will be 2 to 5 p.m., Sunday at the funeral home and one hour prior to the service on Monday.