

J. Rodney Gibble

J. Rodney Gibble, 68, passed on to join his beloved wife of 45 years, Sandy, on Tuesday, July 8, 2008. Rod was the son of the late Rufus G. and Mabel W. Bollinger Gibble and a lifelong Manheim native. Throughout his life, Rod loved both sports and Manheim and was supportive of many athletes and athletic organizations in the Manheim area. A 1957 graduate of Manheim Central High School, he was a lifetime member of the Manheim Alumni Association, the Hope Fire Engine and Hose Company Number One of Manheim, and the Manheim Historical Society.

Rod was a member of the 1951 Manheim Chix Baseball team that won the New Era tournament and was rewarded with a trip to see the Brooklyn Dodgers. In 1954 they won the New Era Midget Tournament.

Manheim's first PIAA State Wrestling champ at 112 lbs in 1957, Rod was inducted into the District III Hall of Fame in 1978, the Manheim Central Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2001 and the Lancaster-Lebanon Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame in 2008.

Rod joined the Manheim Tennis Club in 1953; and was a member of two Manheim Tennis Club teams that won National Championships in Palm Springs, CA in 2005.

Although Rod had many significant achievements in baseball, wrestling, and tennis, there was nothing more he enjoyed than playing sports and laughing with his buddies. He had a strong love and appreciation for both his town and country which he demonstrated proudly. Family and friends loved his quick wit and easy sense of humor.

Surviving is a daughter, Stacey Gibble Barrick wife of Roger Barrick of Mechanicsburg, two sons, R. Scott husband of Laura A. Peszka Gibble of Lititz, Steven J. husband of Jennifer E. Craycraft Gibble of Manheim.

Rod, known to his grandkids as Gramps, is survived by seven grandchildren: Rustin, Rogan and Ryan Barrick of Mechanicsburg, Melissa and Michelle Gibble of Lititz, Hunter and Greyson Gibble of Manheim. Also surviving are two brothers, Eugene husband of Janet Gibble of Manheim, Robert G. husband of Christie Gibble of Tuckerton, N.J., and a sister, Shirley Canias of Willow Valley, Lancaster.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a memorial service to celebrate his life from the Hoffer Auditorium at Pleasant View Retirement Community, 544 North Penryn Road, Manheim, PA on Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 3:00 PM with Pastor Jerry Greiner officiating. Interment will be private and at the convenience of the family in Hernley Mennonite Cemetery, Rapho Township. Friends may visit with the family at the Buch Funeral Home, 21 Market Square, Manheim on Friday evening from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. There will be additional visitation with the family on Saturday afternoon from 1:30 PM until the time of the memorial service in Hoffer Auditorium at Pleasant View Retirement Community. In lieu of flowers, you may send contributions in Rod's memory to the Manheim Tennis Club, c/o William Loercher, 314 West High Street, Manheim, PA 17545. The Buch Funeral Home Manheim in charge of arrangements. For further information or to send the family a message of condolence, you may visit our website at:

www.buchfuneral.com