

Record ROBERT C. 7-4-2013
DEMEULENAERE

Robert C. DeMeulenaere, 87, of Victor, died June 29 at his home. Services were July 2, at St. Bridget Catholic Church in Victor. Burial with military rites was in the Calvary Cemetery in Victor.

He was born July 23, 1925 in Victor to Emil and Agnes (Michalek) DeMeulenaere, the second of six children. He was graduated from St. John's Catholic High School in Victor, attended St. Ambrose College in Davenport, and then at the age of 17 enlisted in the U.S. Navy. From July 22, 1943 through July 22, 1946, he served during World War II as a hospital corpsman and medical technologist, stationed in San Diego, Calif.

Upon his Navy discharge, he returned to Iowa and in 1950 completed a degree in commerce from the University of Iowa. His career spanned more than four decades in the lumber business and the manufacturing industry. He was a co-owner of Wahl-Dee Lumber in Victor for a number of years, and later worked as a

purchaser and inventory control specialist for several companies, including Amana Refrigeration.

On August 6, 1951, he married Regina Ellen Keating at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Temple Hill. Throughout their married life, they lived in Cedar Rapids, Belle Plaine, and Victor, and enjoyed 58 years together before her death in 2009.

He was a life-long volunteer, donating time and effort to his church, his community, and to the civic or service organizations to which he belonged. For more than 50 years, he was a member of the Victor American Legion and the Knights of Columbus. He was a volunteer firefighter and a Boy Scout leader in Victor for many years, and also volunteered weekly for more than 10 years at the V.A. Hospital in Iowa City.

He is survived by his children and their spouses: Mary Jo (Jodi) DeMeulenaere and Gary (Butch) Callison of Iowa City; Pat and Phil Bott of Victor; Susan and Larry Berns of Cedar Rapids; and Paul DeMeulenaere of Iowa City; seven grandchildren and their families, and nine great-grandchildren.