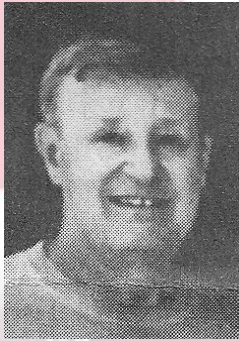




**SGT JOHN "JACK" VANDEN HEUVEL
3RD PLATOON, 1ST SQUAD, APC#231, BRAVO COMPANY
1ST BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 50TH INFANTRY REGIMENT**



Taken from the Obituary of the Post-Crescent Newspaper, Appleton-Fox Cities, Wisconsin, April 4, 2009.

John "Jack" Vanden Heuvel, aka "The Wiz", age 61, passed away peacefully Thursday, April 2, 2009, with his family at his side after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born May 19, 1947, to Leo "Sam" and Delores Vanden Heuvel. He graduated from Kimberly High School with the class of 1965 where he lettered in Track and Field. Jack was drafted into the United States Army in 1966. He served with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) during the Tet Offensive as a Sergeant E5.

Jack married Barbara Mereness on September 12, 1969, at St. Mary's Church in Kaukauna. Together they enjoyed 39 years of marriage that blessed them with four wonderful children and seven awesome grandchildren. Jack retired from Stora Enso in 2006 after 35+ years due to his Parkinson's disease.

Jack was a member of the Lake Park and Oxbow Sportsman's Clubs. He also belonged to the William Verhagen American Legion Post 60 in Kimberly. Jack loved fishing and hunting his whole life. He especially loved being at his cabin and hunting on his land in Florence County. The door of Jack's cabin was always open to family and friends. He called his favorite place in the woods "Buck Run". Jack loved spending time with his family and friends. He enjoyed attending his grandkids' sporting games and school functions. One of his favorite things to do was to hide Easter eggs for his grandchildren. It was a standing joke within the family that Jack would have to search for the eggs too...because he would forget where he hid them. Jack would spend hours puttering. He would pride himself in being able to make something useful out of nothing. Jack loved building things out of wood, especially things to use up at his cabin.

Jack is survived by his soul mate Barbara; sons: Brian (Kelly). Kimberly; Scott, Darboy; daughters: Lori (Dave) Fuller, Darboy; Vicki Vanden Heuvel, Appleton; and seven grandchildren: Jason, Ryan, Kevin, Keri, Katelyn, Breanna and Samantha. Jack is also survived by his brother, Gary (Connie) Vanden Heuvel and sister Linda (Gary) Hanson; Brothers-in-law Joseph, Russell and John Mereness; sisters-in-law: Diane (Edward) Rathsack and Merri Bowser; and many nieces and nephews. Jack is further survived by some special long time hunting buddies.

Jack was preceded in death by his father and mother, Leo "Sam" and Dolores Vanden Heuvel; his father and mother-in-law, Joan and Russell Mereness; and his brother-in-law, Robert Mereness.

Visitation will be held Monday, April 6, 2009, at Holy Spirit Parish - Holy Name of Jesus Site (620 E. Kimberly Ave.) beginning at 1 PM until time of Mass at 5 PM. The Rev. David Beaudry will officiate. Military rites performed by the William Verhagen American Legion Post 60 immediately following Mass, outside the Church. Committal Holy Name of Jesus Cemetery. For Online condolences, please visit <http://www.oconnellfuneralservices.com>

The Vanden Heuvel Family would like to send a special thank you to Dr. Travis Kroner, his doctor and friend; Dr. Charles Cheng and his nurse Katie; The Cancer Unit Nursing Staff at AMC, especially Stacie; and the hospice Staff including his nurse Leslie Gumpert, Joyce Lamers, Teri Metropulos and Jordan Kruczwarra.

Jack, you were a wonderful husband and father. You are loved more than you could ever know. You were always there to take care of all our needs. You will always be with us through your wonderful, fun-loving spirit. We know how much you loved hunting and fishing and the big part it played in your life. We hope the hunting and fishing is even better in Heaven. We love you!

Barb, Brian, Lori, Scott and Vicki

Grandpa you were our hero. You always made us feel special. We love you and will miss you and never forget you and your love for us.

Jason, Ryan, Kevin, Keri, Katelyn, Breanna and Samantha.