James Wahl – BS 1962 Pharmacy

James D. Wahl, age 83 of Menomonie, WI died Saturday, June 15 at Mayo Clinic Health Systems-Menomonie, surrounded by family.

Jim was born on October 25, 1940, at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire. He was the son of Raymond F. and Alta "Bea" (Ableidinger) Wahl.

At a young age, Jim moved with his family to Grand Forks, ND and graduated from Grand Forks High School in 1958. Jim then attended North Dakota State University and graduated with a pharmacy degree in 1962. In 1963, Jim joined the North Dakota Air National Guard, retiring with the Air Reserves as a Lt. Colonel in 1991.

Jim married Laura Wilner on June 12, 1965, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo, ND. Over Jim's pharmacist career, Jim and Laura lived in Fond du Lac, WI; Bemidji, MN; and Menomonie, owning a store in Hoffman, MN before returning to Menomonie. Jim worked for Erickson's Pharmacy, the Dunn County Health Care Center and Nash Finch Grocery, before retiring in 2012.

Jim was very active in the communities he lived in. He was a member of the Hoffman and Menomonie Lions Club and also served as District Governor from 2012-2013. He was very passionate about the work that the Lions do. Jim and Laura hosted 11 foreign exchange students over the years and got to know their families and take trips to meet them.

Jim is survived by his wife of 59 years, Laura; two children, Steve (Terri) of Chanhassen, MN and Nancy (Craig) Bares of Minneapolis, MN; five grandchildren, Jen, Alex, Brian, Gage and Otto; 11 foreign exchange students, other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Bea Wahl.

Funeral mass will be 11 a.m. Saturday, June 22 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Menomonie with Rev. John Mano officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery with Military Honors provided by the Menomonie Funeral Honor Guard. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of services at the church on Saturday.

Rhiel Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Menomonie, is serving the family.