

IRA J. SHEESLEY

MOUNTVILLE, PA. — Ira J. (Joe) Sheesley, 57, of 409 East Main Street, here, died Thursday at the Leader-Whitehall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Lancaster, following a long illness.

Born in Cearfoss, Md., he was the son of Mrs. Esther (Hamilton) Sheesley, Cumberland, Md., and the late Rev. Joseph P. Sheesley.

Mr. Sheesley retired last March after 33 years' service with Bell of Pennsylvania. He was a member of the Worship Center Ministries, Lancaster, and the Bell Pioneers. He was environmental chairman for Bell Pioneers in 1982 and introduced "Woodsy the Owl" to hundreds of local school children. He also was a Cub Scout leader and an Air Force veteran, having served in Okinawa.

Surviving besides his mother is his widow, Estelle M. (Stewart) Sheesley; a son, Joseph P. Sheesley, Lancaster; two daughters, Ruth S. Heckler, Lancaster, and Monica Sheesley, Boston; a brother, Dwight Sheesley, Glen Burnie, Md.; four sisters, Dr. Mildred Wagner, Westernport, Md.; Ella Holms, Los Angeles; Janet Crowe, Cumberland, and Belva Michael, Keezletown, Va., and one grandchild.

Friends will be received at the Fred Groff Funeral Home, 234 West Orange Street, Lancaster, Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Services will be conducted at the Worship Center Ministries, 2384 New Holland Pike, Lancaster, Monday at 11 a.m. Friends will be received there from 10 a.m. Monday until time of service.

The family asks that expressions of sympathy take the form of memorials to the Lancaster Lung Association, 630 Janet Avenue, Lancaster, Pa., 17601, or to the Worship Center Ministries.