

Finger Lakes ABATE



Walter O. "Walt" Rutski



Walter O. Rutski, 62, of Hornell, passed away Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at home. Born in North Hornell, June 30, 1947, the son of Walter A and Mary Ann Ordway Rutski, he had been a lifelong area resident. He graduated from Hornell High School Class of 1965, and went on to graduate from Alfred State College in 1967. Walt briefly worked for the former Acme Markets, and in 1967 was hired by the NYSDOT, holding many jobs and retiring as supervisor of Regional Materials Engineer in 2002, and from 2003-2008 was a adjunct professor at Alfred State College. Walt was a member of the North Hornell Fire Department from 1963-1995, holding many offices including Fire Chief and president, also a member of the Hornell Elks Lodge, Hornell Association, Hornell Moose Club, a 4th degree Knights of Columbus member, a HOG member, 17 years of Finger Lakes Abate, and president for 11 years, member of the State Abate president for 4 years, was the North Hornell village historian, and member of the Hornell Sportsmans Club, HO model railroading, the NRA, and also enjoyed motorcycling, Nascar, collecting old cars, and competing in various shooting events throughout the Northeast. He was predeceased by his parents, a brother O.W. Rutski, and his father in law Edward D Grant. He is survived by his wife Cheryl "Dunior" Grant Rutski whom he married March 16, 1977, his aunt Genevieve Rutski of McAuley Manor in North Hornell, mother in law Margaret Grant of Woodhull, sister in law Linda Grant, brothers in law Brian (Ronda) Grant, Scott (Amy) Grant, nephews Brian Grant Jr, Aaron Grant, and niece Allison Grant, and all his close friends especially at the Fire Department.