Harry J. DeGroot, age 73, died Friday, March 29, 2013, at Saint Mary's Hospital with family by his side.

He was born Nov. 30, 1939, to Peter J. and Dorothy (Dodder) DeGroot in Union Grove, Wis. Harry grew up on a dairy farm. He graduated from Union Grove High School in 1957.

Harry married the love of his life, Marlene Moe, on Nov. 18, 1961, at First Congregational Church in Union Grove.

He had a passion for cars. He was an auto mechanic

and auto body technician his entire adult life. Harry also enjoyed spending time with friends at the Cookery in Sugar Camp.

Above all else, Harry loved his family and friends. He was always eager to lend a helping hand. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Harry is survived by his children, Cheryl (Steve) Hagen, Curt and Eric (Katrina); 12 grandchildren, Tiphanie (Jeremy), Heather, Kerry (Brian), Laura, Keegan, Sydney, Lexi, Brianna, Jenna, Carter, Rhiane and Dexter; and four great-grandchildren, Blake, Paige, Penelope and Jordan; a brother, Rodney (Donna); a brother-in-law, Fritz (Jaya) Hansen; two sisters-in-law, Sherri and Gail Moe; and his very dear friends, Allen and Kris VanNatta.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marlene; his parents; a sister, Helen; his parent-in-laws, Newton and Helen Moe; brothers-in-law, Bob and Steve Moe; and a sister-in-law, Kay Hansen.

A funeral service will be held Friday, April 5, 2013, at 4 p.m. at Hildebrand Russ Funeral Home with Chaplain John Uhlarik officiating. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. until the time of service.

Hildebrand Russ Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. All are invited to light a candle and leave an online condolence at hildebrandfh.com.

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