CARTHAGE, N.Y. — James R. Church, 81, of 222 State St., died early Thursday morning at Carthage Area Hospital where he had been a patient for a short time.

Born July 21, 1928, in Troy, N.Y., the son of James and Ruth Alden Church, he graduated from the former West Carthage High School.

He served in the United States Army from 1953 to 1955, where he was stationed in Korea as a military policeman. After the Army, he was a New York State trooper, and he owned and operated a dairy farm in Champion from 1957 until his retirement. He also served as the magistrate for the Town of Champion from 1978 until the mid 1990s.


He was a charter member of the Champion Volunteer Fire Department a past president of the New York State Magistrates Association, a past officer of the Farmer’s Co-op and a lifelong member of the Four River Valley Historical Society.

He was deeply involved in amateur photography of local people and events.

Surviving are a daughter, Julie Fiaschetti, Champion; three daughters and their husbands, Mary and Nelson Eddy, Black River, Charlotte and Randy Moore, Florida, and Becky and Dave Adkison, Ohio; a sister and her husband, Carol and Harley Hoffman; his honorary children, Sandy Cannan and Charlie Carr; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.
He is predeceased by his wife, Jeanne S. Church.

A funeral service will be held 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25, with full- military honors at the Second United Methodist Church, Champion, with Rev. Linda J. Harris, Pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery, Champion. Visitation will be held 5 to 6 p.m. Monday at church prior to the service. There will be a meal following the service at the Champion Fire Hall.

Arrangements are with Bossuot-Lundy Funeral Home, Inc., 500 State St., Carthage.

Memorial donations may be made to Carthage Area Rescue Squad, 200 Riverside Drive, Carthage, NY 13619.