George J. Paul, 87, of West Seneca, died Thursday, April 3, 2014. Mr. Paul was active in local and statewide fire district organizations for many years. Born in Buffalo, he attended Sloan High School and was drafted into the U.S. Army after graduation, serving as a technical sergeant and medical corpsman in Europe. After World War II, he attended Chrown Business School and Stratford Business College. He moved to West Seneca in 1959 and shortly afterward joined the Reserve Hose Fire Company, or District No. 3, quickly becoming active and serving as fire company president in 1961 and 1962. In 1963, he was elected as a fire commissioner for District 3, an office he held for 40 years. He subsequently became the fire district treasurer, a position he continued to hold at the time of his death. He served as the president of the West Seneca Fire District Officers Association, the Erie County Fire District Officers Association and as president of the New York State Association of Fire Districts in 1998 and 1999. He continued to serve as local director of the state association until his death. Mr. Paul also served as a director of the New York Fire Districts Mutual Insurance Company, an organization that offers lower cost liability insurance to member fire districts. In addition to his volunteer fire service, Mr. Paul served as a director and past president of the West Seneca Chamber of Commerce and was named West Seneca Citizen of the Year in 1979. He was a longtime member of the West Seneca Rotary Club, where he was a past president and a Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary’s highest honor. He was a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He worked for many years with the McDougall Butler and Bonsont Paint companies, as a sales representative and later as sales manager. Mr. Paul is survived by his wife of 60 years, Helen M. (nee Mraz), two sons, James and Eric, one grandson; and a brother, Richard. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held April 7 from St. John Vianney Church, with arrangements by Hoy Funeral Home. Obituaries