

Raphael "Ray" Francis Cron

Raphael "Ray" Francis Cron, 77, died Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007, at his residence in Celina.

He was born Aug. 19, 1929, in Auglaize County, a son of Anthony and Catherine (Quinter) Boeckman Cron.

He married Gwendolyn Otis, and she survives him.

He is also survived by three sons, Brian (Diana) Cron of Cincinnati, Christopher (Kari) Cron of Mendon, Gregory of Ottawa, Ont.; four brothers, Richard Boeckman of Minster, John Cron of West Jefferson, George Cron of Parma, Cletus of Celina; three sisters, Sally Weitzel, Rose Flack, Erma Kolsterman, all of Celina; and five grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, three brothers, Wilbert Boeckman, Joseph Boeckman, Anthony Cron Jr.; and a sister, Rita Moeller.

He taught at Immaculate Conception School, in Celina, and later served 11 years as principal. He also taught at Huges Junior High in Cincinnati, was principal at Marion Local High School, in Maria Stein, and served as supervisor of Mercer County Schools.

He was a Mercer County commissioner for two terms and served in the U.S. Army.

He attended high school at Brunnerdale Seminary in Canton. He also attended Our Lady of the Snows Seminary in Illinois and Mississippi. He earned a degree as a lay pastoral minister, received a bachelor's degree at the University of Dayton and a master's degree in education at Wright State University.

He was a volunteer at Grand Lake Hospice, in St. Marys, and a member of Celina Kiwanis.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, at Immaculate Conception Church in Celina with the Rev. Tom Brenberger. Burial followed at St. Marys Cemetery in Celina.

Cisco Funeral Home in Celina was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial donations may be directed to Grand Lake Hospice or the Immaculate Conception Endowment Fund.