

Former mayor dies at 84

Former Minster Mayor
Ted Purpus died unex-



pect-
edly
Satur-
day, Oct.
20,
2007,
at Joint
Town-
ship

District Memorial Hospi-
tal. He was 84.

Purpus served as mayor
of this Auglaize County
village for 18 years, after
serving for a year on vil-
lage council and six years
on the Board of Public Af-
fairs. He had a number of
accomplishments to his
credit, including being
named Citizen of the Year
in 1995, receiving the Min-
ster Booster Club's Black
Jacket Award in 2001 and
being named Grand Mar-
shal of the 2002 Oktober-
fest Parade.

Purpus also served as
the first president of the
Stallo Library Board. He
was a past president of the
local Kiwanis Club, a 50-
year member of the Min-
ster Knights of Columbus,
a life-member of the Civic
Association and served as
secretary-treasurer of the
Minster Athletic Club.

A member of St. Au-
gustine Catholic Church,
Purpus was a lay commu-
nion distributor. He was a
graduate of New Bremen
High School, attended The

Ohio State Univer-
sity and served in the U.S.
Army during World War
II.

He worked as manager
of the Special Products
Department at Minster
Machine for 37 years.

Purpus was born Dec.
9, 1922, in New Bremen,
the son of Leo E. and Pearl
(Cleveland) Purpus who
preceded him in death.

On April 12, 1947, in
St. Augustine Catholic
Church, he married Nor-

ma Woehrmyer, who sur-
vives him.

Purpus is also survived
by his children, Don Pur-
pus of North Carolina, Jay
and Renee Purpus, and
Nancy and Tim Jay, all of
Minster; a brother, Thom-
as Purpus of Indiana; hon-
orary family members Jeff
and Ruth Bitler; grandchil-
dren Amy and Bryan Pur-
pus, Matthew, Sarah and
Craig Purpus, Holly, Rus-
sell and Andrew Jay, and
Benjamin Belcher; and six

great-grandchildren.

A daughter, Janet Pur-
pus Belcher, and sisters
Anna Desch Howell and
Antoinette Kehoe preced-
ed him in death.

A Mass of Christian
Burial will be celebrated
Friday, Oct. 26, 2007, at
10 a.m. at St. Augustine
Catholic Church with the
Revs. Rick Nieberding and
Louis Schmit officiating.
Burial will follow in the
church cemetery where
full military honors will

be awarded by the Minster
Firing Squad.

Friends may call at Ho-
genkamp Funeral Home in
Minster on Thursday, Oct.
25, from 2-8 p.m. and on
Friday from 9-9:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the
family asks that memorial
contributions be directed
to the Minster Area Life
Squad and the Janet Pur-
pus Belcher Scholarship
Fund. Email condolences
may be made at www.hogekampfh.com.