

Joseph L. Raterman

Joseph L. Raterman, 88, a former mayor of the Village of Minster, died Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at Joint Township District Memorial Hospital in St. Marys following a five-week illness.



He was born in St. Patrick on May 2, 1915, the son of Louis and Anna Hoying Raterman; both parents are deceased. On September 17, 1949, he married Norma M. Severin in Minster and she survives.

Mr. Raterman is also survived by two daughters and a son: Mary Jo Raterman of Kettering, James (and Karen) Raterman of Versailles and Caren (and Ray) Joyner of Linderhurst, Ill.; six grandchildren: Jacki Stonebraker; Joe, Julie and Justine Raterman; and Camille and Thomas Joyner; and a great-grandchild, Brooke Stonebraker.

Mr. Raterman is also survived by his siblings: Louise "Lil" Wagner of Minster, Mickey Dobrozsi of Middletown, Homer "Squirt" Raterman of Sidney, and Patricia Neff of Vandalia; and two sisters-in-law, Theola Raterman of Dayton and Rosemary Raterman of Fort Loramie.

A son, Jay, preceded him in death as did four brothers and five sisters.

Retired in 1981 after 32 years with the Minster Machine Co. where he worked as the sales office manager, Mr. Raterman served as the mayor of Minster for three terms and had served on the Minster Village Council.

An United States Army veteran, Mr. Raterman served during World War II in Panama. He was a member of the Minster VFW, the Minster Kiwanis Club, the Minster Civic Association, the Fraternal Order of Eagles 1391 in Minster, the Minster Athletic Boosters, the Minster Machine Co. 25-year Club and Limited Addition Club and served two terms on the board of the Auglaize County Council on Aging.

He was a 1933 graduate of Minster High School and a graduate of St. Joe College in Rensselaer, IN. He was a member of St. Augustine Catholic Church in Minster.

A funeral mass was said Saturday, May 1, by the Rev. Fr. Louis Schmidt at St. Augustine Catholic Church. Burial followed in the church cemetery where full military honors were given at the grave side by the Minster Firing Squad.

Memorials may be directed to the Minster Area Life Squad. Arrangements were under the direction of Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Minster.