

Couple enjoys 50th anniversary celebration event

HOUSTON — Gene and Marjorie Speelman, 6100 Houston Road, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary April 16 with a party at the Houston Community Center that was hosted by their children.

Gene Robert Speelman, son of the late George and Anna Speelman, met his future bride, Marjorie Ann Berger, daughter of the late Edmund and Mary Berger, while they were in high school in Versailles.

They married April 16, 1955, in a 10 a.m. ceremony at St. Nicholas Church in Osgood. The shone shone as the couple exchanged vows on that cool and breezy day. Their reception was held at the Eldora Ballroom.

Witnesses to the ceremony were maid of honor Rita Mescher, now Seifring, and best man George Speelman. Junior bridesmaids were Patricia Berger, now Knapke, and Elizabeth Berger, now Hassenauer. All attended the anniversary celebration.

The couple are parents to 11 children, listed here with their spouses: Teresa and Michael Brown, Tony and Theresa Speelman, Thomas and Denise Speelman, Thecla and Patrick Barhorst, Theodore and Debbi Speelman, Terri Sue and Jeff Philipot, Tamara and Doug Larger, Todd and Diane Speelman, Trudy and Quentin Derryberry, Tonya and Kevin Corbit and Theford Speelman, who deceased.

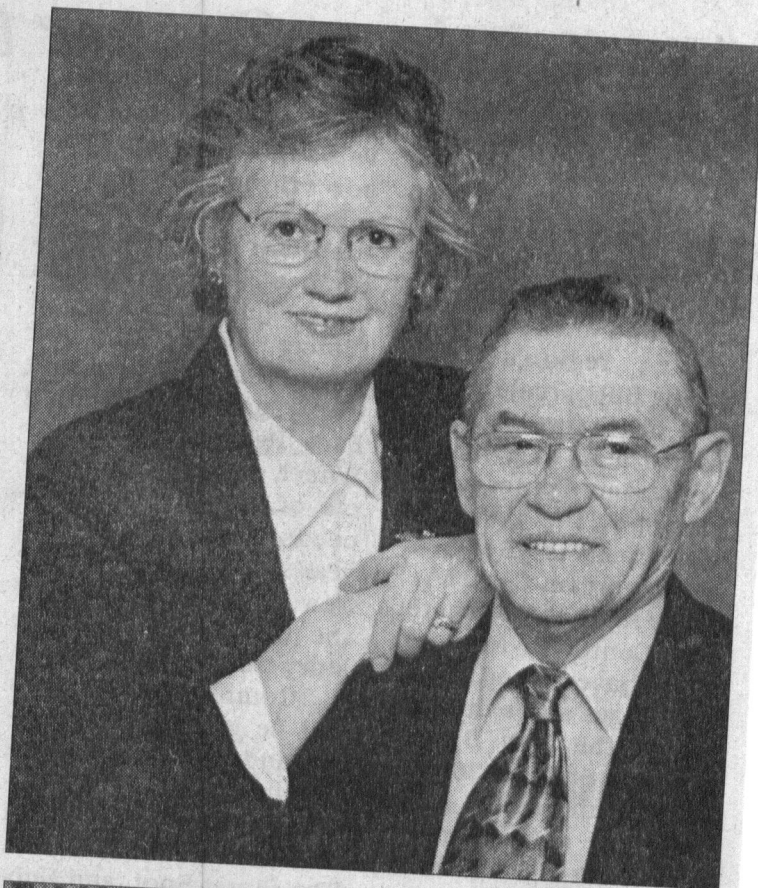
They also have 38 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Marjorie has three brothers, William Berger of Osgood, Joseph Berger of New Weston and Robert Berger of North Star; and three sisters, Patricia Knapke of Versailles, Elizabeth Hassenauer of Wapakoneta and Madonna Winner of Greenville.

Gene has one brother, George Speelman of Minster; and two sisters, Laveda Barga of Versailles and Thelma Henman of Sidney.

The Speelmans both retired in the early 1990s and Gene now works part-time at Ohio Marine in Celina.

The couple enjoy collecting Shaw Du-All garden equipment and going to antique shows. Gene is a member of the Korean War Veterans in Piqua; Marjorie is an associate member of the organization.



Mr. and Mrs. Gene Speelman today, and on their wedding day