

CLARENCE H. BULTEMEIER, 88, of Decatur, died Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2004, 10:03 a.m., at Adams County Memorial Hospital. Born Nov. 21, 1915, in Adams County, he was the son of Adolph Bultemeier and Minerva Stoppenhagen. He married Irene Buuck on May 25, 1941. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the European Theater with the 99th Army Division and was in the Battle of the Bulge.

A lifelong member of Zion Lutheran Church, Friedheim where he held many offices; Adams Post #43 American Legion and former member of the Decatur Rotary Club. He was a member of the Monmouth School Board and North Adams School Board during the creation of North Adams School District merging the various North Adams high schools. He was a member of the Republican Task Force, in 1981, under then President Ronald Reagan. He operated Bultemeier Construction Co., from 1939 until the late 1950's. He founded Adams Builders Supply, Decatur, in 1958 and co-founded Decatur Ready Mix, in 1950. He co-founded Ideal Suburban Homes, in 1961 and co-founded BSB Realty, in 1964, which developed the current Village Green Shopping Center. He was founding director and the first President of Decatur Bank & Trust Co., in 1966. He co-founded All American Homes, in 1970, with his son, Larry and Marion DeBolt and in 1983, co-founded Secure Auto Parts along with his son-in-law, Sam Baumann and son, Bruce.

Survivors include wife, Irene Bultemeier of Decatur; sons, Larry (Janice) Bultemeier and Bruce Bultemeier, both of Decatur; daughters, Mrs. Sam (Judy A.) Baumann of Decatur, Dr. Kaye I. Bultemeier (Noel Kuck) of Oak Ridge, Tenn. and Grace M. Bultemeier (Dan Pence) of Danville; brothers, Elmer Bultemeier of Decatur; sister, Mrs. Hubert (Eldora) Fuelling of Decatur; 10 grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and six step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one grandson, Brett Bultemeier, in 2003; and two brothers, Paul Bultemeier and Gerhard "Johnny" Bultemeier.

Service is 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Zion Lutheran Church, Friedheim, with the Rev. Daniel Dahling officiating. Visitation is from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday and 2 to 4 and 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, Decatur. Burial at Zion Lutheran Cemetery, Friedheim. Preferred memorials to Zion Lutheran Church, Friedheim or Wyneken Memorial School.

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Contributed by Jim Cox