

FRANCIS J. "FRANK" WELLMAN, 66, died Saturday at Adams County Memorial Hospital, Decatur. Born in Jay County, he became a teacher in 1962 and had been a teacher and principal in North Adams Community Schools since 1969. He retired in 1998 as assistant superintendent. He was involved in Decatur Boy's Baseball Little League, and Youth League, in which he was past president, treasurer, manager, assistant manager and coach for 26 years. He was also a Decatur Parks & Recreation board member for 22 years, past president of the Decatur Lions Club, past president of the Decatur Optimist Club, received the Boys & Girls Club Service to Youth Award and was grand marshal of the Callithumpian Parade in 2000. He was a U.S. Navy veteran. Surviving are his wife, Sharon of Decatur; five sons, Stan E. of Key West, Fla., Mark A. of Naples, Fla., Jim M. of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Patrick J. of Decatur and Luke R. of Bloomington, Ill.; a daughter, Lisa L. Rohleder of Cincinnati; five brothers, Jerome and Richard, both of Bryant, LeRoy of Greenville, Ohio, Eugene of Phoenix and James of Seattle; four sisters, Martha Dodd of Huntington Park, Calif., Helen Wellman and Rita Heimann, both of Decatur, and Doris Wack of Tucson; and 10 grandchildren. Prayer service at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday at Haggard & Sefton Funeral Home, Decatur, followed by a 10 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, Decatur. Calling from 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, Decatur. Memorials to Boys Town or the Decatur Baseball Association.

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Contributed by Jim Cox