

Decatur Daily Democrat (IN) - March 10, 2010

Herman Henry Martin Krueckeberg, 99, of Decatur, died Tuesday in Adams Memorial Hospital.

He was born on April 8, 1910 in Adams County to William and Marie Schroeder Krueckeberg. He married Meta Whilhelmine Liebman on October 3, 1935, in Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Fort Wayne. She passed away on November 4, 1993.

Herman retired in 1983 as president of First State Bank of Decatur after a career of 54 years. He joined the bank on March 15, 1929, as a bookkeeper, served as executive vice-president for many years, and was president from June 2, 1970, to December 31, 1982. He retired on May 31, 1983, then was a consultant to the bank after retirement. He was active in banking circles, holding various positions in the American Bankers' Association for many years and was also active in the Indiana State Banking Association's Region One, in which he held every office.

Herman was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Decatur, holding nearly all of its offices at one time or another; a member of the Decatur Lions Club for more than 50 years; a former member of the board of Lutheran Homes Inc. and an honorary board member at the time of his demise; a former volunteer for the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod; and active in the Associated Colleges of Indiana.

He also was a longtime member of the Anthony Wayne Council of the Boy Scouts, receiving the Silver Beaver Award for his service; a longtime volunteer in Adams County 4-Hand FFA (Future Farmers of America) activities; a founding member and the longtime treasurer of the Adams County chapter of the March of Dimes; and active in the Society for Crippled Children and Adults.

He was the last survivor of the founders of the Decatur Community Fund and for many years headed its Special Gifts Division; had been a member of the South Adams Arts Council for many years as well as a member of the North Adams Arts Council; won the Stephen Decatur Award in 1990 from the Decatur Chamber of Commerce for outstanding community service; and received a Sagamore of the Wabash Award from Indiana Gov. Frank O'Bannon.

Surviving are a daughter-in-law, Sharon Krueckeberg of Woonsocket, Rhode Island; three grandchildren, Dr. Suzy Krueckeberg of Oak Park, Illinois; Adam Krueckeberg (and wife Jennifer) of Newton, Massachusetts; and Mrs. Jacob (Anne) Standish of Charlotte, North Carolina; three great grandchildren, Emily Krueckeberg and Aurora and Evan Standish; and his nephew and wife, who were his primary caregivers: Tim and Norma Krueckeberg of rural Decatur.

He was preceded in death by two sons, John and Dan W. Krueckeberg; a daughter-in-law, Maryanne Krueckeberg; a brother, Edgar Krueckeberg; and a sister, Martha Simmons.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Zion Lutheran Church of Decatur, with Pastors Phil Phifer and Daniel Gadbow officiating. Burial will be in Decatur Cemetery.

Visiting hours are 9-10 a.m. Thursday in Porter Auditorium at Woodcrest Retirement Community in Decatur; 2-5 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday in Zwick and Jahn Funeral Home, Decatur; and 10-11 a.m. Friday in the church.

Preferred memorials are to Zion Lutheran Church in Decatur, to Lutheran Life Villages in Fort Wayne, or to the Herman and Meta Krueckeberg Trust at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne.

