

Chester W. Crates

By Nicole Crates

### Chester W. Crates

Chester "Chet" W. Crates was born to Frank Joseph Lamson Crates and Daisy D. Crates on July 17th, 1914 in Ohio. Around 1920, Chester moved with his family to Allen County. He became a farmer like his father before him and also took a job as an office manager for the Allen County Agricultural Soil Conservation Service. Chester married Josephine A. Smith around 1933. They had their first child in 1934 and named her, Gloria. They continued to try and have children and there were 4 stillborn. Then in 1943, a second daughter was born, and they named her Jane. Two more children were born, Jon B. and Steven K. Jon was born in 1945, and Steven was born in 1949. Chester was a member of East Liberty United Methodist Church, Monroeville Lodge 293 F and AM, Fort Wayne Valley Scottish Rite, and the Mizpah Shrine. Chester died at age 76 on August 29, 1990 and was buried in the Monroeville Memorial Cemetery. His wife, Josephine, died in 1996 and is buried beside him.

Citations:

Chester W. Crates Obituary, News Sentinel newspaper, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 30 August, 1990, page 6M, column 1.