

Arthur Zehr

Date of Death: July 23, 1967

Date of Burial: July 27, 1967

Burial: MRE

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 am Thursday at the First Missionary Church for Arthur Zehr, 71, of this city, victim of a traffic accident on Monday. Mr. Zehr was a member of this church. Rev. Gerald Gerig, pastor of the church, assisted by Rev. Cornelius Vlot, pastor of the First Missionary Church in Fort Wayne, will officiate and burial will be in the MRE Cemetery. Friends may call at the Yager Funeral Home after 3 pm Wednesday.

Mr. Zehr was a lifelong resident of this community and prominently known. He was owner and manager of the Park Motel on U.S. 27 South and he lived in an apartment at the motel. Mr. and Mrs. Zehr opened the motel in November of 1952.

The accident victim was fatally injured shortly after noon Monday after a collision by his car with a machine driven by Ralph C. Allen, 43, of Frankfort. The accident happened on Indiana 28, a mile west of Frankfort.

According to the Clinton County Sheriff's Department, the car driven by Mr. Zehr, headed east, went off the pavement on the south side of the pavement and traveled in a side ditch five feet deep for 148 feet. For 65 feet, all four wheels were in the ditch, the report said. The car then came out of the ditch, up on the highway, veered across to the north side of the road and was struck broadside by the Allen machine. Mr. Allen received minor injuries and was said to be in good condition after being treated.

Mr. Zehr died at 1:15 pm Monday, an hour after the accident in the Clinton County Hospital, at Frankfort. He received a badly crushed chest and other internal injuries. The Clinton County Coroner conducted an autopsy of the body.

The local man had been at McComb, Illinois over the weekend to visit in the home of a daughter and son-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Gerhart R. Schwartz and was on his way to Berne at the time.

Mr. Zehr was born in Hartford Township, Adams County, August 29, 1895, a son of Joseph and Mary Luginbill Zehr. He was married to Rena Macklin, May 26, 1918. She was postmaster of Berne for a number of years and preceded in death. Mr. Zehr graduated from Geneva High School and Muncie Business College. Before opening the Park Motel, he was employed by the General Electric Company. In his earlier years, he was a partner in the road contracting firm of Macklin and Zehr.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Gerhart (Josephine) Schwartz, Macomb, Illinois and Mrs. William (Phyllis) Stogdill, South Bend; a son, Thomas K. Zehr, pastor of the First Missionary Church in Fort Wayne and a widely known musician; nine grandchildren and a brother, Preston Zehr of Berne. A daughter, Mary Isabelle, preceded in death.

Preferred memorials may be made to the Missionary Church Association.

Berne Library Heritage Room (IN)

MRE Obit Book 1966-1972, image 87

Transcribed by Jim Cox