

Ernest J. Zimmerman, 80

Panama — Ernest Joseph Zimmerman, son of Joseph and Barbara Mester Zimmerman was born at Westphalia on June 18, 1898. He was baptized at St. Boniface church in Westphalia. As a small boy, he moved with his parents to Panama. He attended public school and grew to adulthood in Panama. After attending St. Ambrose Business school in Davenport, Ernest returned to Panama where he managed his father's grocery store.

On June 3, 1924 he married Dorothy Willmer at St. Mary's church in Panama. Seven children were born to this union. The Zimmermans made their home in Panama and Ernest went into partnership in the grocery store with his father. After his father's death in 1926, Ernest continued to operate Zimmerman's Store in Panama. The Zimmermans were privileged to celebrate their 54th wedding anniversary this past June. Mr Zimmerman died at his home in Panama, on Saturday, Nov. 25, 1978 at age of 80 years, five months and seven days.

Ernest was a long time member of St. Mary's church in Panama. He was also a member of the Senior Citizen's club, the Community club, and the Businessmens club, all of Panama. At one time he was a member and director of the Panama Band. He was named Citizen of the Year in 1973 by the Panama Community club.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Grace; three brothers - John, Henry and Richard; and by two sisters - Mary and Helen. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy of Panama; three sons - Harold, Allan and Don, all of Panama; three daughters - Elaine Zimmerman and Dolores (Mrs Alvin) Stessman both of Panama and Marcene (Mrs Richard) Twark of State College, Penn., eight grandchildren, a sister Olga (Mrs Dewitt Potter) of Panama; nieces and nephews, and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Mary's church in Panama on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 1978 with Rev. David Fenelon as celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery, Panama with Jim Kloewer, Frank Reisz, Jerry Lapke, Mike Scollard, Gerald Schafer and Frank J. Oppold serving as pallbearers.
