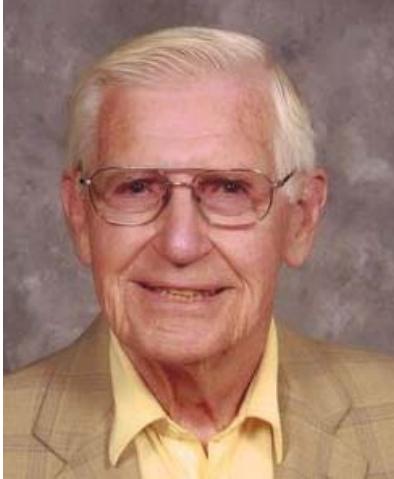


Robert P. Federspiel

November 14, 1920 - February 27, 2011



Robert P. Federspiel, age 90, of Clear Lake, IN, and Naples, FL, died on February 27, 2011. He was born November 14, 1920, in Ft. Wayne, IN, to Frank J. Federspiel and Ella (Miller) Federspiel. In 1945, he married Margaret Weber; she preceded him in death in 2010.

Survivors include five children: Phillip P. Federspiel of West Hartford, CT; Ellen F. Poffenberger and her husband Robert (Fritz) of Carmel, IN; Susan F. Chase of Glastonbury, CT; Neil M. Federspiel and his wife Marcia of Ft. Wayne, IN; and Ann F. DeWert and her husband Richard of Cincinnati, OH. Survivors also include his daughter-in-law Kathy Latz, five

grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son Paul R. Federspiel.

He is also survived by siblings Dorothy Bosler and Jerome Federspiel. He was preceded in death by sisters Lucille (Sister Justina) Federspiel, Florence Krull, Genevieve Holsinger and Virginia Gaitan; and his brothers Frank J. Federspiel, Jr. and Ralph Federspiel.

Mr. Federspiel received Navy Cadet flight training and was commissioned as a Naval flight officer, flying reconnaissance in World War II. He was assigned to VPB-112 in Fleet Air Wing Seven in French Morocco. Later, FAW-7 operated from Dunkeswell in England.

He was employed at General Electric in Ft. Wayne, involved in experimental development of electric motors, and then he established Customcraft, Inc., designing and producing exhibits for trade show displays. He co-owned Customcraft for 33 years.

Working with the Jaycees, Mr. Federspiel was part of the group that built the Ft. Wayne Memorial Coliseum; he was VP and Secretary of the Jaycees. He was involved in the design concept and growth of the Ft. Wayne Children's Zoo when it was conceived in 1964, and served on the zoo's Board of Directors at the zoo's inception and remained Director Emeritus for 40 years.

He was involved in the concept and design of industrial buildings in Ft. Wayne, and was involved in the design and development of multi-family and single-family homes in Naples in his retirement. He was on the Building Committees of the Grace Lutheran Church, Naples, and the Clear Lake Lutheran Church during their recent reconstruction.

Mr. Federspiel loved woodworking and building projects, sailing, travel, classic boats and automobiles, his church community, Navy reunions and, above all, spending time with his family.

There will be no calling hours. A memorial service at Grace Lutheran Church in Naples, FL, will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2011. Private services at Clear Lake will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Clear Lake Lutheran Church, Clear Lake, IN; Grace Lutheran Church – Memorial Garden Fund, Naples, FL; or the Ft. Wayne Children’s Zoo, Ft. Wayne, IN.