

In loving Memory . . .



Ed was born to Michael and Anna (Omachinski) in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was raised in Oshkosh and graduated from Oshkosh High School. Ed married Helen J. Schoenrock on December 5, 1941. Helen and Ed shared 65 years together blending a life style of professional basketball in the early years and church building with the family business, Schoenrock & Sons. They lived in Toledo, Ohio, Oshkosh Wisconsin, Havre and Miles City Montana before settling in Mohall in 1956.

Ed was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Mohall, Mohall Country Club, Mohall Legion Club and Minot Elks.

Ed attended the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and played professional basketball starting in 1941 with the Toledo White Hats and then the Oshkosh All Stars. A 6-5 guard, Big Ed was pensioned by the National Basketball Association for his professional participation in the professional basketball leagues that eventually formed the current National Basketball Association. He served in the United States Marine Corps and received an honorable discharge for his service during World War II.

After his retirement from professional basketball in 1948, Ed started a new career as a bricklayer and stone mason with the family church building business. His masonry talents can be witnessed in hundreds of churches throughout Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin. Along with his brother-in-law, Dave Schoenrock of Hazen North Dakota, they created and installed such notable stone work as the sanctuary walls of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Williston, North Dakota; Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater, Minnesota; Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview, Minnesota; St. Thomas Catholic Church in Tioga, North Dakota; Zion Lutheran Church in Beulah, North Dakota and numerous churches in Minot and Hillsboro, North Dakota.

"Big Ed" as he was known by many, radiated a personality that you never forgot. People fortunate enough to share thoughts and time with him always looked forward to the next time, because they became part of his extended family. An avid fisherman, he spent countless hours with his grandson Scott Bekken and many other fishing partners. His golfing was legendary at the Mohall Country Club breaking the course record with a 29. Rumor has it, the time he spent with his poker club financed his house. He enjoyed thoroughbred horseracing especially his aptly named race horse, Pink Martini.

Big Ed always said, "Don't cry at my funeral, have a Polish tea"



Edward Joseph Erban

July 6, 1921
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

May 17, 2008
Stillwater, Minnesota

Eighty-six years, ten months, eleven days

FUNERAL SERVICE

Zion Lutheran Church
Mohall, North Dakota
Thursday—May 22, 2008—10:30 a.m.

CLERGY

Reverend Todd Olson

MUSIC

Deb Belquist—Soloist
Congregational Hymns: *Shall We Gather at the River* (WOV #690),
Soon and Very Soon (WOV #744)
Chantel R. Southam—Organist

CASKETBEARERS

David Schoenrock	Stephen Schoenrock	Scott Bekken
Aaron Bekken	Christopher Schoenrock	Bryce Erban
Jennifer Hines	Brady and Stephanie Lyson	Mason Erban

INTERMENT

Mohall Community Cemetery
Mohall, North Dakota

FAMILY

Son, Steve (Dorothy) Erban Stillwater, MN
Daughter, Sandy (Jim) Bekken New Rockford, ND
Grandchildren, Bryce (Caley) Erban, White Bear Lake, MN; Mason Erban,
Stillwater, MN; Scott Bekken, Anoka, MN; Aaron Bekken, Seattle, WA;
Stephanie (Brady) Lyson, Grand Forks, ND
Siblings, Marion Sturm, Oshkosh, WI; Audrey (John) Henderson, Green
Bay, WI; Elmer (Ivy), Moses Lake, WA; Bob, Shawno, WI
Ed had a very special relationship with relatives Bud (Shirley) Schoenrock,
Oshkosh, WI; Dave (Gisela) Schoenrock, Hazen, ND; Tracy (Kathy)
Schoenrock, Laurie (William) Hill, Stephanie (Francis) Bruggman, David
Schoenrock, Stephen (Stephanie) Schoenrock, Christopher (Coralee)
Schoenrock, and Jennifer (Cory) Hines

Ed was preceded in death by his loving Wife, Helen; his Parents;
his Siblings John, Richard, Charlie, Harold, Walter, Gert Schein
and Dorothy Koehn.

Following the graveside service, all friends are invited to gather at the
Mohall American Legion Club for a time of fellowship and lunch. Please
share your memories of Ed with us and one another.