

Emil Escher

Nov. 4, 1881 – June 8, 1964

Emil Escher Age 82, Esteemed Monticello Resident, Succumbs

Emil Escher, 82 years of age, highly esteemed Monticello resident and retired cheesemaker, died at 8:30 Monday night at the St. Clare hospital, Monroe.

He became ill suddenly Sunday evening and entered the hospital Monday morning. Mr. Escher had been in failing health for several months and had recently resided with his daughter, Mrs. Ernest Kern, and family, Clarno township, rural Monroe.

He was born in Alsace-Lorraine on Nov. 4, 1881, the son of Ludwig and Mary Wilhelm Escher.

As a young man he served in the German navy for three years.

He came to the United States on Dec. 25, 1905, settling in Monticello. On May 5, 1909, he was united in marriage in Monroe to Emily Sauter, who passed away in 1953. He made cheese in Monroe and Monticello area factories.

In 1933 he was summoned to Monticello by a group of farmers and helped organize the Monticello North Side Swiss Cheese Co-op., and was the first cheesemaker in the new plant, which opened early in June, 1934. He was assisted at the factory by his two sons, Fred and Arthur, who took over the operation of the plant upon their father's retirement in 1940.

Mr. Escher was a member of St. Victor's Catholic church, Monroe. He was a director of the Commercial and Savings Bank, Monroe, for over 30 years.

He is survived by two sons, Arthur, Lodi, and Fred, Monticello; one daughter, Mrs. Ernest Kern, Monroe; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren,

He was the last member of his family, having been preceded in death by five brothers and two sisters.

Funeral Services Thursday

Funeral services will be held at 10 a. m. today (Thursday) in St. Victor's church, Monroe. Father E. C. McCollow will officiate. Interment will be in Calvary cemetery, Monroe. Pallbearers will be William Escher, Lodi, Robert Klassy, Iowa City, Iowa, Donald Klassy, David Dwyer, Madison, Thomas Stearns, Janesville, and Richard Wichser, Brodhead.

Directors and officers of the Commercial and Savings Bank, Monroe, will be honorary pallbearers.