Joseph R. Legler July 11, 1907 - April 21, 1970

Joseph R. Legler, 62, Passenger in Auto, Killed in Accident

Joseph R. Legler, 62 years of age, Monticello, was killed instantly when the automobile he was riding in crashed head-on into a tree at the intersection of Highway 11 and County Trunk E, at Brodhead at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Mr. Legler was a passenger in a car driven by Eric J. Johnson, age 39, Brodhead. The two men were returning home from work at the General Motors company plant in Janesville. Johnson, who apparently fell asleep at the wheel, was treated for facial cuts and three fractured ribs at a Brodhead clinic and released.

Mr. Legler's death raises to three the number of 1970 highway fatalities in Green county.

Mr. Legler was born July 11, 1907, in Monticello, a son of David and Barbara Schlittler Legler. He attended Monticello high school and was employed at hardware stores and was an upholsterer before entering World War II April 22, 1942. He was attached to the 306th Airdrome Squadron, serving in England from 1943 until 1945. He was discharged Oct. 12, 1945, as a sergeant. During his tour of duty he was married in Manchester, England, to Lily Tidswell, Aug. 5, 1944.

Mr. Legler had been employed in maintenance work at the Janesville plant for nearly 15 years. Previous to that time he had been employed at the Federal Refrigeration Co. plant in Belleville far several years.

He had planned to retire from his work at Janesville this coming July upon completion of 15 years of employment there.

Mr. Legler was a member of the Zwingli United Church of Christ and of the Amstutz-Marty American Legion post, Monticello, and held membership in the United Auto Workers Local 95, Janesville.

He is survived by his wife; three sons, David, Tulsa, Okla, John, stationed in California with the U.S. Navy, and Geoffrey, student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; three sisters, Mrs. Louise Freitag, New Glarus, Mrs. Fred C. (Maud) Hammerly, Albany, and Mrs, William (Ada) Buehl, Route 1, Monticello, and a brother, Herman D. Legler, Monroe.

Funeral Services Friday

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday in the Zwingli United Church of Christ. The Rev. J. Allan Mittler will officiate, and burial will be in Highland cemetery.

Members of the Monticello Legion post will meet in a body for the funeral services.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. today (Thursday) at Memorial Lounge at the church. Frederick S. Voegeli is in charge of arrangements.