

FRANK W. PANKRATZ

1895 - 1979

Funeral services were held Wednesday morning, Dec. 5 at the Dinkel - Juengel Funeral Home, Sebewaing, for Frank W. Pankratz, age 84 of 447 North Beck St., Sebewaing, who passed away Dec. 2 at Scheurer Hospital, Pigeon, following a lingering illness.

Mr. Pankratz was born March 15, 1895, the son of the late Gustave and Ida Pankratz. He and Florence Stoeckle were married Sept. 25, 1923 in New York.

He was employed as a lineman for the New York Telephone Co. for 32 years, and upon his retirement, was the oldest man still actively climbing poles. He was a life member of the Telephone Pioneers of America.

He served in the Infantry with the U.S. Army during World War I in the United States, France and Germany, receiving his discharge in France in 1917. He was a member of Post #54, and became a charter member of Post #917 in New York.

He served the longest record time as Quartermaster in New York State, assisting many veterans in obtaining Honorable Discharges and the right to vote.

He was a member of VFW Post #4115 in Sebewaing.

Other activities included playing hardball; he was among the Champions of the Thumb in 1913, and performing violin concerts throughout Detroit.

Surviving are his wife, Florence; one daughter, Mrs. Martin (Virginia) Thiel, Pigeon; one son, Walter of Miami, Fla; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A brother, Clarence, preceded him in death.

The Rev. E.W. Scheck of Sebewaing and the Rev. Fr. Michael Wolf of Pigeon officiated with burial in the Memorial Park Cemetery, Sebewaing. Post #4115 of Sebewaing conducted the military services.

Memorials may be made out to the American Cancer Society or Scheurer Hospital Long-Term Care Unit, Pigeon.