

Mike Zeiler

March 6, 1946 – November 24, 1967

as published in the Monroe Evening News, Friday, November 24, 1967

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP – Michael Zeiler, 21, Of 1050 Lotus Dr. died at 7:30 a.m. today when his car was struck by a Chesapeake and Ohio passenger train at the Sterns Rd. Crossing, about 1-1/2 miles north of the state line.

Trooper Jack Tyrrell of the state police of the Erie post said Mr. Zeiler was headed west on Sterns Rd. east of Telegraph Rd. when his 1966 model car was struck by the train. There are no electric flashing signals at the crossing, although it is marked with warning signs and cross arms.

“We were traveling north about 55 miles an hour when we saw the car traveling west between 50 and 60 miles an hour,” Donald Bundy of 601 Rauch Rd., Temperance, a train brakeman told Trooper Tyrrell.

The train engineer, Bob Cuthbertson of Walbridge, Ohio, who also was riding in the engine with Mr. Bundy, said the brakes on the train were applied when they realized they were going to collide with the car.

“As we neared the crossing, the front end of the car dipped down as the driver applied the brakes,” the two trainmen said. The car skidded 32 feet onto the tracks where it was struck by the engine.

The speed of the train ripped the front section of the car apart and hurled it nearly 150 feet north of the railroad crossing. The passenger compartment of the vehicle was pushed 32 feet north of the collision site.

The Erie Township Volunteer Fire Department also was called to the scene to stand by in case the engine of the car caught fire.

Mr. Zeiler, the father of one child, had left his home and was on his way to the residence of his brother, Edmund Zeiler of 125 Sub-Station Rd., Temperance. Michael Zeiler was employed by his brother who is in the construction business.

Mr. Zeiler's body was thrown out of the car and he was found 10 feet from the rear section of the car. Monroe County Coroner Eli Allore said Mr. Zeiler died from head injuries.

He was taken to Farnham Funeral Home, Temperance, where services are pending.

The death brings to 49 the number of persons who have been fatally injured in accidents on Monroe County Roads so far this year. There were 53 traffic deaths recorded on county roads at this time last year.

as published in the Toledo Blade, Saturday, November 25, 1967

Services for Michael A. Zeiler, 21, of 1050 Lotus St., Erie, Mich., who was injured fatally Friday after an automobile he was driving was struck by a train at the Sterns Road crossing of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, will be Monday at 9 a.m in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Temperance, Mich. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Toledo. The Rosary will be recited Sunday at 8 p.m. In the H. H. Birkenkamp Mortuary, Trilby.

Born in Toledo, Mr. Zeiler lived in Erie four years. He was employed as an equipment operator for the E. R. Zeiler Co., a construction firm owned by his brother.

Surviving are his wife, Cheryl; son, Michael; parents Mr. And Mrs. Edmund Zeiler; brothers Edmund R., Richard and Jack, all of Temperance, Paul of Oregon, and Robert, of Lulu, Mich.; sisters, Mrs. Margaret Holmes of Toledo, Carol and Sharon, of Temperance.

Please make an entry in the [Guest Book](#) to offer your personal memories, recollections and experiences with Mike. Others would really like to hear from you.

If you prefer, send any photos and thoughts to honor Mike's memory to the webmaster and they will be added to these pages: [Email Webmaster](#)