



## Robert V. Mathes

February 2, 1923 - June 6, 2011

Robert V. Mathes, 88, of Spiceland, went home to be with the Lord, Monday, June 6, 2011.

He was born February 2, 1923 in New Castle, a son of the late Lawrence V. and Bertha M. (McNally) Mathes.

Robert was a 1941 graduate of New Castle High School. He graduated in 1947 from Butler University where he attended on an athletic scholarship and played point guard on the basketball team. He then earned his Master's Degree in 1951 from Butler in Education. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII as a navigator on a destroyer in the Pacific. He coached and taught at Clarksburg High School and at Spiceland till 1955 when he became Spiceland High School Principal. Following the consolidation he was the elementary principal for Spiceland and Tri Elementary Schools until retirement in 1987. He was a member of the Spiceland Friends Church where he taught Sunday school for over 30 years. He enjoyed gardening, working in the yard and fishing in his son's pond. He also enjoyed helping family members with projects and spending time creating clocks in his woodshop. Following retirement he greatly enjoyed the visits of past faculty members and students. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Nancy (McCoy) Mathes; a daughter, Beth Ann Mathes of Elkhart; a son, Robert M. (wife: Jeanine) Mathes of Spiceland; a grandson, Chris Mathes of New Castle and a nephew, Tony Hoover of Dayton, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Rebecca J. Mathes in November

2010; two sisters, Verena Hutson and Pauline Hoover and two brothers, Richard and Jean Mathes.

Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m. Friday at Spiceland Friends Church with the Holy Spirit officiating the service. Burial will be held privately at Circle Grove Cemetery, Spiceland.

Friends may call from 4 – 7 p.m. Friday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Spiceland Friends Church or “SPATS” Spiceland Preservation and Tourism Society with envelopes available at the church.

You may send the family a personal condolence at [www.sprolesfamilycares.com](http://www.sprolesfamilycares.com).

Sproles Family Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Robert V. Mathes

# Tribute Wall

RZ

“ *My condolences to the family of a wonderful man. I'll never forget seeing him most mornings at the Post Office. He always wanted to exchange mail with me. I'll miss him greatly.*  
*Ron Zimmerman*

---

**Ron Zimmerman** - June 11, 2011 at 05:25 PM

HH

“ *I feel honored to know Mr. Mathis. I never will forget him telling me he was so proud of me for graduating high school when all my brothers before me had quit school. Heaven is sweeter with his presence. Condolences to the family.*

---

**Hazel (Pierce) Hoove** - June 10, 2011 at 01:08 PM

BD

“ *Mr. Mathes was a wonderful principal and leader to us all but most of all he was a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers go to you at this time. May God be with you during this time.*

---

**Becky Davis-Harris** - June 07, 2011 at 08:24 AM