

Sterling P. Hoch, 80, Catasauqua volunteer, baseball field planner

Sterling P. Hoch, 80, of North Catasauqua, died Sunday, Jan. 31, in Sacred Heart Hospital. He was the husband of Evelyn M. (McCallister). They were married for 54 years last March.

He was a purchasing agent for Boise Cascade Envelope Plant, Allentown retiring in 1980. Previously, he was a purchasing agent and materials manager for various printers in the Lehigh Valley.

Born in Catasauqua, he was a son of the late Palmer J. and Mary E. (Hoch).

He was a member and elder of the Presbyterian Church, Catasauqua.

He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. As a B-26 bomber pilot he flew 65 missions over Europe, achieving the rank of 1st Lt., rank of 1st Lt. He was a recipient of the Air Medal with 12 Oak Leaf Clusters.

He was an organizer and charter member of the Catasauqua Junior Baseball Association and its commissioner for 8 years, where he was a planner and developer of the Opportunity Baseball Field. He was also a charter member and member of the board of directors for the Suburban North YMCA, having served as a past president, treasurer and committee chairman during its construction. He was also a member of the Catasauqua American Legion 215.

Survivors: Wife; sons, David A. of Fallston, Md. and Donald S. of North Catasauqua; brother, Elwood F. of Allentown, and two grandchildren.

Services: 11 a.m. Wednesday, John H. Brubaker Funeral Home, 3rd and Walnut streets, Catasauqua. Call 10-11 a.m. Wednesday.

Contributions: To the church.