

**The Morning Journal**

**Lorain, Ohio**

08/03/2005

NORWALK -- **Louis G. Frey**, 81, former mayor of Norwalk, died Monday, Aug. 1, 2005, at Fisher-Titus Medical Center, Norwalk, following a sudden illness.

He was born June 14, 1924, in Norwalk and was a lifelong resident of the city.

**Frey** had a long political career, including election to City Council in 1951 and election as mayor, serving from 1957 to 1965 and from 1993 to 1999. He was also interim mayor for eight months in 1991.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

**Frey** was employed as a personal assistant to the late A.J. Baltes of Baltes Construction Co., Norwalk; worked for the U.S. Treasury Department supervising U.S. Saving Bonds for Ohio and Michigan during the 1960s and 1970s; and had owned and operated a Norwalk real estate brokerage.

He was a member of St. Paul Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus Council 626, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Elks Lodge, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Kiwanis Club, all in Norwalk. He enjoyed golf, wine-making, hunting and fishing and dog and horse racing; and was an avid card player.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Miriam (nee Leibhart); daughter, Kathleen Butler of Norwalk; sons Timothy **Frey** of Napoleon and Thomas **Frey** of Norwalk; sisters Betty Schaffer, Veronica Kluding and Kathleen "Kiki" Leibold, all of Norwalk, and Sister Mary Gilbert of the Dominican Order in New Jersey; and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a sister, Martha **Frey**, and brother, Charles **Frey** and James **Frey**.

Friends may call Wednesday, 2 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. with a prayer service at 8:30 p.m., at Walker Funeral Home, 98 W. Main St., Norwalk. Funeral Mass will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in St. Paul Catholic Church, 91 E. Main St., with the Rev. Frank Kehres, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in St. Paul Cemetery, Norwalk.

Memorial contributions may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

**Blade, The (Toledo, OH) - August 4, 2005**

Deceased Name: Louis G. **Frey** , 1924-2005 Straight talk a mark of ex-Norwalk mayor

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2005

NORWALK, Ohio - Louis G. **Frey**, former mayor of Norwalk known as a straight-talking leader whose accomplishments included getting a highway bypass built around the city, died Monday at home after a fall a day earlier. He was 81.

Family members did not know the cause of death.

Mr. **Frey** was mayor from 1957 to 1966, voted to his first term as an independent and three subsequent times as a Democrat.

In 1991, he was interim mayor for eight months, then was elected mayor again, serving from 1993 to 1999.

"You knew where you stood with him," his son, Timothy, said. "He was up-front with people. He meant what he said. It was a pretty Republican county, so I think he was quite well liked."

The U.S. 20 bypass built in the 1960s as a result of his efforts helped relieve some noisy truck traffic congestion on Main Street, where vehicles from several state highways converge.

Mr. **Frey** also shaped efforts to get three reservoirs constructed to provide a reliable supply of water. "He was concerned that maybe the Huron River would get polluted and the city wouldn't have a source of water," his son said.

Mr. **Frey** was president of the Ohio Mayors Association in 1963 and was a member of the Ohio Municipal League.

He operated a real estate brokerage business. He later was a director of the savings bond division of the U.S. Treasury Department in Columbus.

Surviving are his wife, Miriam; sons, Timothy and Thomas; daughter, Kathleen Butler; sisters, Betty Schaffer, Veronica Kluding, Kathleen Leibold, and Sister Mary Gilbert, and seven grandchildren.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. today in St. Paul Catholic Church. Arrangements are by Walker Funeral Home.

The family suggests tributes to a charity of the donor's choice.