

Barney (Foster) Vosters

Hi, I am Barney Vosters. I was born January 27th 1896 in Little Chute. I lived here all of my life. I passed away due to a heat attack at the young age of 53 on June 10, 1949. My parents, who are buried on the other side of this grave were Henry & Johanna (De Bruin) Vosters. I was the youngest of six (6) boys. I also had 5 sisters. My brothers, Louie and Herman and I, were in the army during WWI at the same time. (as shown on the picture).

I met and married Alma Holtz in 1921. She was from Shawano. Before we were married, I would catch the Soo Line Train in Appleton and ride the caboose to Shawano to see her. While we were married, we had 3 children, Don and Betty Rae and 10 years later, LeRoy or Lee.

I worked as a barber and partner with Jack Hermsen in the downtown Main Street Barber Shop. I loved cutting hair. At the time we even cut ladies hair. They called it the Boyish Bob. Later on, about 1933, I got the urge to go into the Grocery Store business. I built a small neighborhood grocery store next to our house on the corner of Wilson and Lincoln Streets. It is still there, the Paper Seconds store.

My wife, Alma, was a lot of help to me in the store because she worked at the Kosterman & Green Grocery Store in Shawano which gave her a lot of knowledge about the grocery business. It also gave me the opportunity to help Jack cut hair during the busy holiday seasons of the year.

I liked playing checkers and I was pretty good at it. I would give opponents one checker and take 2 or 3 away. Everybody wanted to play me, especially fireman from the Appleton Area and salesmen who would call on us at the store.

I also enjoyed playing poker. Some of the notable people I played were Fr. VandeLoo and Fr. Van Drise, who were assistants under Rev. Msgr. John J. Sprangers at the time. Other high ranking officials I played cards with were Tail Gunner, Joe McCarthy, who was a Judge in Shawano County at the time and later became Senator Joe McCarthy and Attorney Urban Van Susteren from Appleton who became a Judge in Outagamie County.

I was also a member of the Little Chute American Legion and the Kaukauna Eagles Club.

I guess that's about it, I could go on & on. I want to thank you all for stopping by and listening to me and showing respect for me and others at the gravesites being honored here today.

I am Lee Vosters and Barney was my father.

Little Chute Historical Society Cemetery Walk 2011

