

Smithson, official of metal firm

A mass of Christian burial for Robert E. Smithson, a customer service representative for an aluminum firm who played minor league baseball, will be offered at 10 A.M. today at St. Augustine's, Church, 5976 Old Washington boulevard, in Elkridge.

Mr. Smithson, who was 60 and lived at 3342 Chatham road, in Ellicott City, died Monday at the Howard County General Hospital following a heart attack.

Associated with the Washington Aluminum Company for more than 20 years, he had served as its traffic manager.

Earlier, he had worked for a time at the Calvert Distillery.

Born in St. Denis and a graduate of the Elkridge High School, he pitched for the Elkridge Athletic Club. The team won the mid-Atlantic and Eastern Division championships in 1939 and he pitched a no hitter during the divisional competition.

He then was signed by the Washington Senators and played for minor league teams in the club's farm system. They included teams in Salisbury, St. Augustine, Fla., Shelby, N.C. and Trenton.

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During World War II, he pitched for service teams while in the Army Air Corps in the Pacific.

A year ago, he was elected to the Hall of Fame of the Oldtimers Baseball Association of Maryland.

A former exalted ruler of the Catonsville Lodge of the Elks, he was a member of the Dewey Loman Post of the American Legion.

He is survived by his wife, the former Geraldine S. Turner; a daughter, Mrs. Karen S. Esbill, of Catonsville; a sister, Mrs. Monica Robe, of Catonsville, and two brothers, James T. and William Smithson, both of Elkridge.

Robert Smithson obit

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