

Erhardt Hitzeman  
Born: 7 Jan 1903  
Death 17 Nov 2004 – Bay City Michigan

Social Security Death Index

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Hitzeman, Erhardt W.  
Bay City, Michigan

The Maestro is finally where he wanted to be; he has gone home to his lord. Erhardt William Hitzeman, age 101  $\frac{3}{4}$  years, passed away November 17, 2004, in the loving arms of his daughters. He was born to Ernst and Sarah Hitzeman January 7, 1903 in Dillon, Iowa. He lived his early life in Illinois, moving to Saginaw, Michigan in 1924 to become a teacher, principal, organist and choir director at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. He served there for 30 years, moving in 1954 to serve Zion Lutheran Church, Bay City. Until his retirement in 1968, he served the church and school as music director, organist and teacher. Erhardt held an Associates degree from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Il., a Bachelors degree from Central Michigan University, a Masters degree in music from the University of Michigan and was co-author of the Concordia Music Education Series. On Oct 7, 1939, he married the former Esther Schemm, who passed December 23, 2000. He is survived by 2 daughters, Mary Garcia and Shirley (Larry) Clemens, both of Bay City; Five grandchildren; Traci (Troy) Garcia-Witzke of Bay City, John David Garcia of Joliet, Il., Terrance Clemens of Bay City, Brian (Toni) Clemens of Chicago, Il., and Kristen Clemens of Bay City. Erhardt is survived by two brothers-in-law, Arnold Salvner and Henry Zeitler, both of Saginaw. He also leaves many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his four brothers, Alvin, Walter, Herbert and Albert Hitzeman; plus his sister, Edna Gendry. Erhardt's granddaughter Traci is expecting and Dad wanted so much to become a great grandfather. The lord chose otherwise. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church where a musical celebration of his life will be held on Monday, November 22, 2004 at 1:30 pm with the Rev. William H. Allwardt and Rev. John W. Wernecke officiating. Entombment will be at the Oakwood Mausoleum. Friends may call at the Penzien-Steele Funeral Home, Saturday November 20, 2004 from 6-9 pm, and Sunday, November 21, 2004 from 2-8 pm Mr. Hitzeman will lie in state at the church on Monday from 12:30 pm until the time of service. In Lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to Zion Lutheran Church Bell Tower Building Fund.

Penzien-Steele Funeral Home  
608 N. Madison Avenue  
Bay City Michigan

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