

**Harry Allan Foster**, son of Fred L. (1885-1949) and Alma J. (Radewald) (1890-1978) Foster, was born 22 October 1934, Niles, Berrien County,

*Lansing State Journal, July 20, 1959*

## Newlyweds To Live On College Campus

The Keeler Methodist church was the scene of the double ring ceremony which united in matrimony the former Margaret Louise Thar and Harry Allan Foster.

The rites were performed by the Rev. John W. Smith on Saturday before an altar flanked

with baskets of pink gladioli. Ferdinand Thar, brother of the bride, assisted the minister.

Mrs. Leona Washburn provided the organ music. A trombone duet was played by James and William Thar, brothers of the bride.

### BRIDE FROM DECATUR

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Thar, route 2, Decatur. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Allan Foster, route 3, Niles.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of silk organza over silk taffeta with a fitted bodice, bateau neckline and long sleeves. The neckline was trimmed in rosebud medallions and alencon lace. The bouffant floor length skirt featured matching medallions and lace down the front and a draped bustle of self material which fell into a chapel train in back. A veil of silk French illusion was held in place by a crown of seed pearls and sequins. The bride carried a white Bible with small white gladioli and sweet peas on white streamers.

Acting as maid of honor was Miss Mary Louise Walquist, Grand Rapids, Mich. She wore a gown of pink silk organza with a bateau neckline and balloon skirt. The maid carried a powder puff bouquet of carnations.

Gowned similarly to the maid of honor were the bridesmaids, the Misses Anita Diets, Williamson, Mich., and Bonnie Haefner, Kalamazoo.

### TWO FLOWER GIRLS

The Misses Leona Foster and Joan Quirk were flower girls. Bruce Foster acted as ring bearer.

Attending the bridegroom as best man was Duane Goodenough.

Ushers were James and William Thar, and John Dale Foster, brothers of the bridegroom.

The bride was graduated from Dowagiac high school and Michigan State university where she was a member of Omicron Nu and Kappa Delta Pi.

The bridegroom was graduated from Niles high school and is attending Michigan State university where he is president of Michigan Farm Bureau Young People. He is majoring in agriculture economics and is working on campus this summer.

Upon returning from a wedding trip through lower Michigan, the newlyweds will make their home at the university.



MRS. HARRY FOSTER

## Gold Star Moms Give Surprise Party For Officer

A surprise party honoring Mrs. George Paulsen who was elected second vice president of the Michigan Gold Star Mothers, was given in Maccabee hall recently by the local Gold Star Mothers, Chapter 17.

Local members were joined by guests from Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and Bridgman, as well as from Benton Harbor and St. Joseph.

Dignitaries in the order who were present were Mrs. Maude Fry, of Grand Rapids, past national president; Mrs. Belle Van Dyke, chairman of the state Legislative committee for the coming year, also of Grand Rapids; and Mrs. Gertrude Williams of Kalamazoo, Michigan, past president.

Mrs. Paulsen was remembered with gifts by visiting units. She

Michigan. He graduated from Niles High School and attended Michigan State University where he majored in agriculture economics and was, among other pursuits, president of Michigan Farm Bureau Young People. In July 1959 he married Margaret L. Thar.

Harry, with 5 children in the Okemos Public School system, was appointed to the Okemos Board of Education in 1979 to fill a vacancy. Elected to the board June of 1979 he became board president for the 1982-1983 school year. Harry did not seek re-election in June 1983.

Harry and Margaret celebrated 36 years and 5 children together before Harry died 11 March 1996.



Harry Foster

*Lansing State Journal, June 8, 1979*

**INCUMBENT** Harry A. Foster, 44, of 2039 Tamarack, division secretary-manager for the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, is making a fourth try for election to the board.

Foster was appointed last July to a one-year interim term left open by the resignation of R. Craig Philips, a month after losing an election bid for a one-year term to Dr. Larry H. Stone. Stone is not seeking re-election.



## Professional attitude

Harry Foster, a resident of Okemos for 11 years, is seeking a one-year term on the Okemos Board of Education. He has five children in the Okemos schools and has been personally interested in all phases of the Okemos school system.

Mr. Foster has attended Okemos School Board meetings for three years as an interested parent and as a citizen concerned with quality education and the best use of the resources available. He is already familiar with the issues before the board and could become a contributor in the beginning of his term. He is committed to a quality basic and balanced educational program — a program which would include basic skills as well as challenging opportunities in the learning enrichment of art, music, athletics, special education and vocational training.

Mr. Foster has experience in his professional work with contract negotiations, public hearings, meeting procedures and data collecting for decision-making. He knows that it takes the teamwork of parents, teachers, administrators, and the board of education to best utilize our human and financial resources.

MR. AND MRS. LANIER M. DELIND  
Okemos

## Okemos picks Foster

The Okemos School Board has elected officers for the 1982-83 school year.

They are: Harry Foster, president; Robert Mitchell, vice-president; Harry Andrews, secretary and John Prelesnik, treasurer.

The board also decided to keep its monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Kinawa Middle School Library.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Thursday 14 March 1996

## **HARRY A. FOSTER**

Loving husband, father and grandfather, died Monday March 11, 1996, at his home in Okemos. He is now at home with his Lord. Harry was born and reared on a family farm in Southwestern Michigan's Berrien County. He graduated from Niles High School where he was active in the student council, the football team and wrestling squad. He also participated in 4-H, FFA and Farm Bureau Young People. Harry was an alumnus of Michigan State University where he completed the Agricultural Technology Program and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics. Harry had a long and distinguished career devoted to the marketing of Michigan farm commodities. Over his career, he focused on the asparagus, plum, cherry, potato and grape industries. He was currently the Executive Director of the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board and the Michigan Plum Advisory Board. Harry was among the marketing leaders who drafted and spurred enactment of Michigan Public Acts 232, 244 and 153, enabling commodity producers to form self-financed bargaining, promotion and development programs that are models for the nation. He helped fund and guide such organizations as the Asparagus Division of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, the Michigan Asparagus and Plum Advisory Boards and the Michigan Asparagus Research Committee. He also served in a number of the cherry industry groups, including the Michigan Cherry Committee, Michigan Association of Cherry Producers and the National Red Cherry Institute. Harry also had a leadership role in the formation of "Asparagus USA", a national industry organization. He participated in "Michigan for Quality, Inc.", a consortium of Michigan Horticultural Marketers that promoted the state's varied agricultural products and played a major role organizing "Michigan Gourmet", a plan by which foods produced in the state are featured in weekly education television programs. Harry was a longtime friend of MSU and Cooperative Extension. He also served on several extension advisory groups, including the Michigan Vegetable Council. Harry was active in his

community. He was a member of Okemos Community Church and served as President on the Okemos Board of Education while his children were in

*1981 Okemos Tomahawk Yearbook*



high school. He also envisioned and founded the Dyslexia Resource Center (Meridian Language Arts Center). Harry is survived by his wife of 36 years, Margaret (Thar); 4 daughters, Suzanne (Alex) Hartley of Orlando FL, Jane (Eric) Haynor of Hamilton, New Zealand, Kimberlee Foster of Farmington Hills and Mary (David) Sibilsky of Durham, NC; a son, James Foster of Suttons Bay; grandsons, Joshua and Jarrod Hartley; 2 brothers, John (Emily) and Dale (Lois) Foster; 2 sisters, Frances Quirk and Barbra (Edward) Kolm; 4 brothers-in-law, their families and several nieces and nephews. A Memorial Celebration of Harry's life will be held on Friday March 15, 2 p.m., at the Okemos Community Church with the Rev. Charles Grauer officiating.