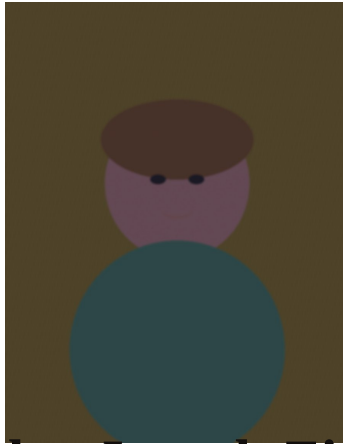




Stanley Joseph Zimpel

April 23, 1929 - July 4, 2026

Rockford, Illinois

Rockford lost Stanley Joseph Zimpel on July 4, 2026. He was 97. Born in Rockford on April 23, 1929, into a Polish-American household that treated work as a language. From the start, he treated promises like tools: keep them sharp, do not lend them lightly.

He issued gauges that kept presses from improvising danger. A die gauge block set rode his bench like a conscience. Colleagues still mention a die gauge block set.

He and Helen married in 1953 and raised three sons without needing an audience. After Helen's death in 2019, he held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember covered dishes that arrived without a speech. Mornings were his favorite shift at home. He died in Rockford, on streets that already knew his pace. The work gloves still keep the shape of a grip.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. His life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A quiet remembrance in Rockford. Those who wish may give to a neighborhood library, food pantry, or workers' aid fund instead of flowers.

NN-OBIT-2026-C913

<https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/stanley-joseph-zimpel-obituary-rockford-il>

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