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## Moise Reopel



Moise Reopel, 97, of 84 Main St., a lifelong resident of Southbridge, died peacefully in his home surrounded by his family on Friday, April 15, 2011.

His wife, Josephine (Sanek) Reopel, died in 1995. He leaves a daughter, Patricia Reopel, with whom he lived; his daughter-in-law, Jeanette Reopel of Southbridge; and many nieces and nephews as well as great nieces and nephews. His son, Dr. Roger Reopel, died on Aug. 15, 2010. He was born in Southbridge the son of Marie (Frenier) Reopel Donais and Exephir Riopel and grew up on his stepfathers' working farm on Charlton St. As a child he had many duties including a milk route where the horse would lead him to each stop. It was there his love for harness horses grew and began training them with his stepbrother. In 1949, he drove in his first harness race. His passion for harness racing grew throughout the years, leading him to become a driver, trainer and breeder. He was an active member of the United States Trotting Association.

Moise began his career at the American Optical Co. in Southbridge at the age of 19 and took over his brother's position as foreman at the lens building. He eventually worked his way to Supervisor until he retired after over 45 years of service. He was a member of the American Optical Quarter Century Club.

While at the AO he was involved in creating and perfecting many types of eyeglass lenses, night vision lenses and the Todd AO lens, which was used extensively in the motion picture industry.

Moise married Josephine Sanek in 1934 and together purchased the Amidown Schoolhouse in 1938, which is now 240 Ashland Ave. It is there where they made a loving home and raised their two children, Roger and Patricia. He was always a loving husband and father and he will be greatly missed by his family.

His funeral will be held on Wednesday, April 20th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 10:00am in Notre Dame Church, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial in St. George Cemetery, Southbridge, will be held at the convenience of the family. Calling hours in the funeral home will be held on Tuesday, April 19th, from 4:00 to 7:00pm.

[morrillfuneralhome.com](http://morrillfuneralhome.com)

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