

Fred Schmid



KIWANIS CLUB OF ANN ARBOR

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FREDERICK J. SCHMID

1894 - 1977

Fred Schmid was more than an average Kiwanian. He was a model Kiwanian. He cherished three relationships in life: his wife, Edna, his work as a businessman (prior to retirement in 1972), and his activities in the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor. Because Edna was equally dedicated to Kiwanis, these two loves of Fred merged into one.

Fred's personality could be characterized as low-key. He did not try to make waves, command attention, or achieve glory or honor for himself. His entire life personified the key-note of Kiwanis: Service. Without seeking credit or medals for achievement, Fred was satisfied to serve in the best Club tradition. When he was honored by election as Club president, he simply took it in stride, and served with distinction. In this he set a pace for younger members which has left a lasting mark in his Club.

Friends remember Fred for his droll sense of humor, low-keyed puns, and one-liner jokes. In the very complex job of organizing the annual rummage sale from which his Kiwanis Club obtains its charity funds, Fred was the kind of leader who shared in all responsibilities, no matter how lowly or bothersome. He never asked of any member more than he would do or give, while his doing and giving was enriched with a unique brand of humor. The annual sale was a highlight in the lives of both Fred and Edna, for they participated together over more than a quarter century.

One of the Kiwanis responsibilities shared and served by Fred Schmid was as a member of the operating committee of Forney W. Clement Foundation. Here too it is to be said, "He served with distinction".