Well Known Atchison Businessman Dies (KAIR)--A well known Atchison area businessman is being remembered. Gerald V. "Jerry" Kuckelman died Wednesday at the age of 78, surrounded by family.

A native of Effingham, he and his wife Virginia opened Jerry's Restaurant in Atchison in 1964. His son, Atchison County Attorney Jerry Kuckelman says some of his earliest memories include working in the restaurant with his siblings. He says his father "took us to work from the time we were about ten years old on. We worked in there, and it was great because you got to meet most of the people in town…you would just meet all kinds of people from all over town. That's what I always think about as as child…the restaurant days."

Kuckleman had a heart attack, and retired in 1995, but always found time to help his daughter Elizabeth run her restaurant Jerry's Again.

In addition to assisting his daughter, Jerry also helped out with the hot lunch program at the Atchison Catholic Schools, and served as a member and President of the St. Benedict Catholic School Board.

Kuckelman says that his father contributed a great deal to the Atchison community in that "He was just such a strong believer in family, strong believer in his church, he just tried to be a good citizen all the time, helping out with things."

The Mass of Christian Burial for Kuckelman will be held Monday morning at 10:30 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in Atchison.

Many Signals Communications