## Have you ever wished you could have met someone and never got the chance? - Starke County Tidbit #59

I would like to have met Stanley Pieza. Some of you have. From all accounts of this man, he seems like an interesting individual to have known. Philip Potempa says of Mr. Pieza, "My mentor was the late Stanley Pieza, my Sunday school teacher and a former reporter".

Mr. Pieza was born in Lithuania in 1905, and was a newspaperman in Chicago, Illinois, before retiring and moving to San Pierre, Indiana. He became interested in local history while working on the history of the All Saints Catholic Church. Click below to go to the 125th Anniversary Publication, written in 1983, of the All Saints Catholic Church in San Pierre. His photo, with the other program book staff, is on page 39.

He started as a police reporter in the 1920s, and then covered religion for more than four decades for the Chicago Examiner, the Chicago's American and Chicago Today.

Mr. Pieza made his mark by scooping other religion writers. He was especially proud that he had interviewed four popes and had covered the proceedings of the Second Vatican Council.

In the All Saints Catholic Church Anniversary Publication, he mentions Lincoln's funeral train

stopping in San Pierre, 6:15 a.m., Monday, May 1, 1865, and Horace Greeley passing through town on a railroad handcar in 1853. He also tells of Thomas Alva Edison staying in San Pierre for a few nights. In Edison's early life, he was an itinerary telegrapher for the Monon Railroad. With the help of others, Mr. Pieza compiled quite a history of the All Saints Catholic Church and San Pierre, keeping our Starke County history alive. I hope you enjoy reading it.

http://www.scpl.lib.in.us/historical/documents/1983-san-pierre-all-saints-catholic-church-125th-anniversary

Jim Shilling Starke County Historical Society

http://www.starkehistory.com

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