

EDWARD J. PISZEK



- Born in Chicago, Illinois, USA on October 24, 1916. A native American of Polish heritage. His parents immigrated from Tarnow, Poland at the end of the 19th century.
- A successful businessman – in 1946 he founded Mrs. Paul's Kitchens, Inc., a frozen food company, specializing in seafood.
- In 1963, visited Poland for the first time to provide necessary medical equipment to stop the spread of tuberculosis.
- Played an important role to end communism in Poland and campaigned for Poland's acceptance into NATO.
- Encouraged his friend James Michener to write the novel, *Poland*, which became a world-wide bestseller.
- In 1974, received an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the Jagiellonian University, Poland.
- Supported U.S. Peace Corps project of teaching English in Poland to teachers, later known as the *Polish Formula* and launched *The World of English* magazine to help Polish students and teachers of English.
- In 1992, received the Rotary Award for World Understanding as did Pope John Paul II, Vaclav Havel and former president, Jimmy Carter.
- In 1998, President Aleksander Kwasniewski decorated him with the highest Polish Citation, *Polonia Restituta* – the Commander's Cross with a Star.
- Assisted the fund raising efforts of Little League Baseball, Inc., to help build the European Leadership Training Center in Kutno.
- In 2000, a stadium was named for Edward J. Piszek at the Little League Training Center in Kutno.
- Honorary Citizen of Kutno, Poland.
- Favorite Major League Baseball Team – Philadelphia Phillies.
- Favorite all-time baseball player – Stan Musial.
- Married to wife Olga for 58 years.
- Had five children.
- Died March 27, 2004 at home in Fort Washington, PA, USA.