

Retiree ran wholesale section of family candy firm in Toledo

BRYAN — Charles B. Spangler, a retired executive of the family-owned Spangler Candy Co. who once managed the company's Toledo wholesale operations, died Wednesday in Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, Ind. He was 90.

Mr. Spangler died of heart failure, said his son, C. Gregory Spangler, the chairman of Spangler Candy's board.

For 25 years, both by himself and with his brother, Albert Spangler, Mr. Spangler managed Spangler's candy and tobacco distribution business in Toledo. In 1960 he became vice president for the credit and shipping departments at company headquarters in Bryan, a post he held until his retirement in 1976. He was then a company director for six years.

During that time, the younger Mr. Spangler said, the candy company "went from being a regional chocolate company to a national manufacturer of lollipops and

candy canes." Along with three brothers and two cousins, Charles Spangler "was a part of that team" that brought Spangler Candy to national prominence, the son said.

Born in Bryan, Mr. Spangler played basketball and tennis at Bryan High School — the latter well enough to qualify for the state tournament. He also played tennis while attending DePauw University, from which he graduated in 1933, and then in Toledo doubles tournaments with a close friend, Clark Dimler, during the late 1930s.

Gregory Spangler said his father was an active member of the Episcopal Church, first at St. Paul's in Maumee — where he was a member of the church vestry — and later at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bryan. He enjoyed sports of all kinds, following University of Michigan football and basketball particularly closely and also attending the World Series

and NCAA Final Four basketball tournaments on several occasions.

After retirement, he and his wife, Martha, traveled extensively — mainly to Europe, his son said, but also to Central and South America.

"He had a map in his office of all the places he went," Gregory Spangler said. "It had a lot of pins in it."

Mrs. Spangler died in 1989.

Surviving are his son, C. Gregory Spangler; daughter, Barbara Fredericks; brother, Frank T. Spangler; five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

The body will be in the Oberlin-Ford Funeral Home, Bryan, after 2 p.m. Monday. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Trinity Episcopal Church, Bryan.

The family requests tributes to the church or to the Bryan Area Foundation.