From the Tuesday, July 30, 1985 edition of the Kankakee Journal:

Joseph Lawrence Sikes, 80, of 213 N. Grand, Bradley, died at St. Mary's Hospital early this morning, following a long illness. He was born June 8, 1905, in Bradley to William and Melvina Sikes. Before retiring, he was a custodian at Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School and worked in the upholstery department at Lasser's Furniture. He was also a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bradley. Survivors include his wife, the former Blanche Bellemare, who he married on Nov. 8, 1929; three sons, Joseph Lawrence Jr. of Torrance, Calif., William of South Bend, Ind., and Gerald of Bradley; five grandsons; one granddaughter and one brother, Edward of Kankakee. He was preceded in death by two brothers and one sister. Visitation will be at the Schreffler Funeral Home, Bradley chapel, from 4-9 p.m. on Wednesday with a wake service at 8 p.m. Funeral services will be on Thursday at 10 a.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bradley, with Father Joseph Butters officiating. Burial will be in Mound Grove Cemetery, Kankakee. Memorials can be made to the St. Joseph Grade School, Bradley.