From the Tuesday, May 31, 1988 edition, page 1, of the Kankakee Journal:

Roosevelt T. "Rosie"Begnoche, 83, longtime Kankakee alderman, died Monday (May 30, 1988) at St. Mary's Hospital, following a one-year illness. Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.until services at 9:45 a.m. at the Senesac Kankakee Funeral Home. There will be a prayer service at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church by the Rev. Lloyd Bowden. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Memorials may be made to funds of the donor's choice. After 24 years on the Kankakee City Council, Mr. Begnoche stepped down on May 4, 1987. He served as 3rd Ward alderman for 22 of his 24 years, until he was redistricted into the 5th Ward. Mr. Begnoche was chairman of the city's Public Works Committee for 22 years and was able to carry out one of his early goals: To blacktop all the alleys in his ward, which made up a major portion of northwest Kankakee. He was also involved in building the public works department into an organization large enough to take care of the entire community. Mr. Begnoche started his political career under Democratic Mayor Ray Nourie; then served with Republican Mayor Thomas Ryan for 20 years before ending his career under the Democratic administration of Mayor Russell Johnson. He was often called "Mr. Republican" but was able to work well with both political parties. Mr. Begnoche's long service to the city, was noted when Mayor Johnson named a snow removal program ROSE (Removal of Snow Efficiently) in his honor. At the time of his retirement, Mr. Begnoche said his philosophy had always been that it is "what's right that is important rather than who's right." He said, "Too many people on the council try to prove who's right instead of what's right and that's no good." Pete Lanto, current superintendent of Public Works said, "Mr. Begnoche, had been strictly bipartisan and was always looking out for whatever was good for Kankakee." Mr. Begnoche began as an apprentice printer at the Frankfort Morning Times in Indiana in 1923. He came to Kankakee and the superintendent of the Bear Brand Hosiery Co.'s print shop offered him a job which led to 18 years with the firm. He also kept his hand in the newspaper business by setting type and working in the advertising departments of the Momence Progress Reporter and the St. Anne Record. During World War II, Mr. Begnoche worked at the Elwood Ordinance Plant, where he was in charge of destroying rejected ammunition. When the war ended, Mr. Begnoche applied for a job at the soon-to-open A. O. Smith Co. in Kankakee and was the 41st man hired when the plant began operations in 1946. He remained on the job until he retired in 1970. For many years he was quality control supervisor. Mr. Begnoche was born Dec. 2, 1904 in Bradley to Henry and Amanda Burton Begnoche. He married the former Hazel M. Therien on Feb.19, 1925 at St. Rose of Lima Church. She survives. Surviving also are two daughters, Mrs. Ralph (Jeanne) Graham of Kankakee and Mrs. Ronald (Sandra) Shear of El Paso, Texas; five grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; five great-grandchildren; three stepgreat-grandchildren; one brother, Lawrence "Pug" Begnoche of Bradley; and three sisters, June Nelson of Bourbonnais, Brunett McLaughlin of Mansfield, Ohio and Rose Mary Dodd of St. Louis, Mo. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Francis, Harley and Abner; and two sisters, Vivian Jepsen and Jeanette Sylvester. He was a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and the Holy Name Society of the parish. He was also a member of the third degree of the Kankakee Knights of Columbus and a member of the Kankakee Moose Lodge.

From the Wednesday, June 1, 1988 edition of the Kankakee Journal:

Visitation for Roosevelt T. "Rosie" Begnoche, 83, will be at 2-8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. Thursday until the services at 9:45 a.m. at the Senesac Kankakee Funeral Home. Memorial services by members of the Kankakee Moose Lodge will be at 7 p.m. today and will be followed by a prayer service at 7:30 p.m. A funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church by Rev. Lloyd Bowden. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Memorials may be made to funds of the donor's choice. Mr. Begnoche died Monday (May 30, 1988) at St. Mary's Hospital. From the KVGS Birth Records: Begnoche Roosevelt Harry & Amanda 4 298