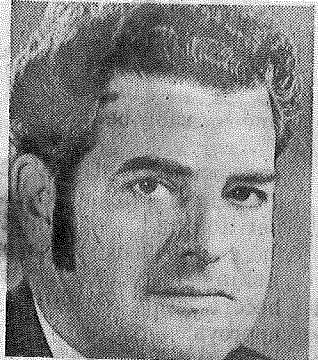


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# Crash victim a 'giant

County, Ont. BK.

# among people'



MAX BUECHLER

By JOHN STEWART  
"It's a bad clinche, but Max Buechler was the prototype of the dynamic man. He was unique. He was literally a giant among people."  
Frank Bajzik sat in the offices of Brethour Real Estate on Lakeshore Road East Monday night and fondly recalled his boyhood friend and business associate, Max Buechler.  
The owner of Brethour and

eight other people died this week when their plane crashed in the Northwest Territories after running out of fuel.  
Bajzik first met Buechler in Germany at the age of 13. They became close friends and emigrated to Canada together as young men.  
"You can't really describe the loss," Bajzik confided Monday. "It's not just a personal loss, it's a loss to all of Mississauga and

Ontario."  
"He started right in Port Credit, just a few doors down from here at 299 Lakeshore Road East. He was a salesman for Brethour and Morris," Bajzik said. "He was loyal to them. He became the manager and then the owner in 1961. He increased the staff from about 30 to 240."  
"He was loyal to Mississauga. He considered it his base," his friend went

on. "He had many requests to relocate but he never wanted to move. Mississauga was his home."  
Buechler, 42, was a resident of Oakville where he lived with his wife and two children. Mrs. Buechler's mother was also killed in the crash.  
Buechler had rare gifts as a person, Bajzik, points out. He was extremely observant and had an almost phenomenal ability for

recalling events which had taken place much earlier. He was an independent person who welcomed the chance to enter the business world through real estate. His forceful personality and a competent, businesslike approach to matters impressed people who met him.  
"He was a leader. He took charge no matter where he was or whom he dealt with."  
At the age of 21 Buechler was running an international

transport firm in Germany which served all of Europe. But he and Bajzik determined "to see the world" and came to Canada.  
When business opportunities began to unfold Buechler decided to stay. Eighteen years later he owned a real estate firm with interests and connections around the world.  
A great athlete in his youth, Buechler had a distinguished track career in

his native Germany. He still displayed his championship trophies in his beautiful Oakville home.  
He was an avid golfer who owned the Wyldewood Golf Club in Oakville and was a member of the Mississauga Golf Club. Swimming and skiing were other athletic interests.  
"He had reached a very high plateau but his future was almost unlimited. The further he got into anything

the more he achieved," noted the Brethour vice-president. "So many opportunities were just opening up to him."  
An inquest will be held into the deaths. Funeral arrangements are not definite but Buechler's burial is planned for tomorrow morning. It could be delayed if weather conditions in the Arctic prevent immediate return of the body.

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