Ermil Leslie Caster died unexpectedly of a heart attack, April 22, 1955, in Shreveport, Louisiana. Caster had just finished a round of golf at the Shreveport Country Club when he was fatally stricken. At the time of his death he was manager of the exploration division of the Arkansas Fuel Oil Corporation.

Ermil Leslie Caster was born, October 21, 1896, in Oberlin, Kansas, where he grew up. He saw military action in France in World War I. In 1925 he was graduated from the Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado, with a degree in metallurgical engineering. There he was a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, Tau Beta Pi, and Beta Theta Pi.

His career in the oil industry began that same year when he went to work as a field geologist for the Mexican Eagle Company, a subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell, in Tampico,