

# Death In Car-Train Crash

## Grace And Dwight Craven Killed Instantly At Crossing Tuesday

Poweshick county's eighth and ninth traffic fatalities of 1965 were added Tuesday to the mounting list with the death of a Malcom couple at a railroad crossing in Grinnell.

The dead were Grace Edna Craven, 55, and her brother, Dwight Hollis Craven, 49. Their car was rammed by a westbound Rock Island Railroad freight train at the High Street crossing shortly after 4 p.m.

### Record Last Year

County's death toll is now only two short of the record high of 11 deaths recorded last year.

Investigating officers said that Miss Craven had left the family farm home north of Malcom shortly after noon Tuesday to come to Grinnell to buy groceries. Dwight Craven, disabled since World War II, had been a patient at the Veterans hospital in Des Moines and was coming home for the Thanksgiving holiday.

He arrived in Grinnell on a bus shortly before 4 p.m. and was then picked up at the depot by his sister.

Authorities said they were unable to determine why they had crossed the railroad tracks south and then came back north on High Street. However, at the High Street crossing, the car pulled directly into the path of the freight train.

### Unable To Stop

Engineer Phil Reynolds said the train was traveling about 35 m.p.h. at the time and he was unable to stop in time to avoid collision.

Impact virtually ripped the 1952-model Buick to pieces and parts of the vehicle were strewn over a half-block long area. Dr. T. E. Probyn, county Medical Examiner, said both occupants of the car were killed instantly. Their bodies were thrown from the demolished auto.

The investigating officers said that while it is believed that Miss Craven was driving the car at the time, they could not be certain.

Assisting the Grinnell Police Department at the accident scene were Sheriff Wiley Taylor and Highway Patrolman Phil Hopkins.

### 1st Multiple Death

Although there have been seven previous traffic deaths in the county this year, this was the first

Interment will be in Our Silent City cemetery at Kellogg.

Grace Edna Craven was born Dec. 25th, 1909, the daughter of David H. and Janie Nicholl Craven. She attended elementary and high schools in Grinnell and graduated with the class of 1927.

In recent years she had been caring for her aged father at the family home at Rte. 2, Malcom.

Dwight Hollis Craven, the son of David H. and Jane Nicholl Craven, was born at Grinnell on Nov. 19th, 1916. After attending schools in Grinnell, he graduated with the class of 1934 at Grinnell high school.

He was formerly employed as a railroad rail postal clerk out of Des Moines before entering the U.S. Army during World War II. He was admitted for care at the United States Veterans hospital in Des Moines following his active service.

Both are survived by their father, David; six sisters, Helen Craven, and Joyce and Janyce Craven (twins), all of Malcom, Mrs. Fred (Evelyn) Coffee, of Torrance, Calif., Mrs. Carl (Dorothy) Quinn, of Newton, and Mrs. Thomas (Eleanor) Barnes, also of Newton; and one brother, Clarence, of Malcom.

They were preceded in death by their mother, in 1962, and an infant brother.

multiple death and the only ones to be recorded this year inside the Grinnell city limits. Deaths of the Cravens brought the November toll to three.

Seven previous victims were:

Marvin Gordon Crosson, 41, of Newton, who was killed instantly February 26th in a one-car accident on highway 146 about two miles north of Searsboro.

Donald S. Hoyt, 56, of Iowa City, who died August 26th of injuries received August 24th in a two-car crash at the intersection of highway 63 and old highway 6 east of Grinnell.

Robert L. Perry, 17, of Grinnell, who was killed instantly Sept. 5th in a one-car crash on a county road near Searsboro.

Lewellyn P. Arizo, 22, of Des Moines and the Philippines, who was killed instantly in a one-car accident just off Interstate 80 south of Brooklyn on October 16.

Harry E. Awtry, 52, of Newton, who died October 17th of injuries received that same day in a motorcycle accident on highway 146 near Searsboro.

Porter Lowrey, 54, of rural Searsboro, killed October 27th when his tractor overturned in a ditch about five miles southwest of Searsboro on a gravel road.

Albert Landuyt, 50, of rural Montezuma, killed November 11th in a pickup truck accident on a county road near Malcom.

Joint funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday from the Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Charles Fry, pastor of the Christian church of Carlisle, Iowa, officiating.