

Crash Near Brooklyn Sunday

3 Local Residents Die In Mishap, 2 Injured

Three Grinnellians died in a one-car crash on highway 6 near Brooklyn Sunday afternoon as Iowa recorded its bloodiest Labor Day weekend on the highways.

Twenty-six persons died on Iowa roads over the long holiday weekend and Poweshiek county's death toll was boosted to six for the year.

Killed instantly in Sunday's crash were the Rev. Earl Edgerton, 50, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene here; his wife, Dollie, 52; and Elmer McDonald, 55.

Also injured were the Edgertons' daughter, Eunice, 17, who is now hospitalized in Iowa City, and Mrs. Bernice Imman, 41, a Grinnell registered nurse, who is in a local hospital.

According to an eyewitness, the Edgerton car was traveling east on highway 5 about 2:30 p.m. one-half mile west of the Plommar Restaurant when a tire blew out. The car veered off onto the shoulder and sheered off a mailbox. The mailbox then crashed into the windshield, probably blinding the driver, and the auto continued down the shoulder until it struck the concrete bridge barrier.

Both Rev. and Mrs. Edgerton were killed instantly. McDonald was pinned inside the auto and it took more than 30 minutes to free him. It finally was necessary to bring in a cutting torch to cut him loose. McDonald died at

a Grinnell hospital about 45 minutes later.

The two men were riding in the front seat and the three women in the rear.

It was believed they were all en route to the dedication ceremony at Kent Chapel near Holiday Lake when the fatal crash occurred.

The late-model Edgerton station wagon was demolished.

Crash was investigated by Sheriff Wiley Taylor, Deputy Max Alford and Highway Patrolmen Gerald Kahler, Paul Gearhart, Robert Kinosh and Tom Law.

Three other persons had died in separate accidents in Poweshiek county this year. They were:

Mrs. James Munger, 35, of Newton, killed Feb. 16th in a one-car crash on highway 6 about 2½ miles east of Grinnell.

George Robinson, 51, of Denver, Colo., killed June 6th in a two-car accident on Interstate 80 about three miles east of the highway 146 interchange.

Michael Davidson, 12, son of the Rev. and Mrs. James Davidson, now of the Matkam area, who died Aug. 22nd of injuries sustained the previous day in a one-car mishap on highway 63 about one-half mile north of the highway 6 junction.

Sunday's triple-fatality was the county's worst since Aug. 28th, 1964, when a Catholic nun from Victor and two Illinois men were

REV. AND MRS. EARL EDGERTON

Funeral services for the Rev. and Mrs. Earl Edgerton will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday from the Grinnell Methodist church with Dr. Gene P. Phillips of West Des Moines, district superintendent of the Iowa District of the Church of the Nazarene, officiating. He will be assisted by the Rev. Donald Bell of Marshalltown and the Rev. Paul Madden of Newton.

Vocal music will be provided by Howard Smith, accompanied by Mrs. L. V. Willison at the organ. Pallbearers for Rev. Edgerton will be Rev. R. V. Schultz, Rev. C. E. Stanley, Rev. W. E. Burd, Rev. Ray Phillips, Rev. Alcock Ulfmet and Rev. Eldon Shields; pallbearers for Mrs. Edgerton will be Rev. A. D. Foster, Rev. James Adams, Rev. Gene C. Phillips, Rev. Jim Diehl, Rev. Jerry Gannon, and Rev. Carlton Eastley. Wives of the pallbearers will serve as flower bearers.

Interment will be in Silent City cemetery at Monroe. Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home until 9:30 a.m. Thursday, and thereafter at the Methodist church. Earl Howard Edgerton was born Oct. 17th, 1915, at Polk City, Iowa, the son of William Robert and Mary Ellen Zachary Edgerton. He attended the local schools of Polk

(continued on page 5)

EDGERTON

Monday, September 5, 1966

Highway Deaths...

(continued from page 1)

City, then entered clerical study at Boone Bible College at Boone. Dollie Wilma Edgerton was born Jan. 27th, 1914, at Monroe, Iowa, the daughter of Charlie and Eva Mae Bowman Worley. She attended the local schools of Monroe and also entered Boone Bible College where she met her husband. Following graduation, they were united in marriage at Gillette, Wyo.

To this union were born three sons and one daughter, all surviving: Howard Glenn Edgerton of Bethany, Okla.; Daniel Eugene Edgerton of Grinnell; and Phillip Earl and Eunice Mae Edgerton. In addition to their children, Rev. and Mrs. Edgerton are survived by five grandchildren, Dan and Debra Edgerton of Grinnell; Regina, Randy and Ronna Edgerton of Bethany, Okla.

Rev. Edgerton is also survived by four sisters and one brother, Mrs. Dorothy Clausen of Ames; Mrs. Barbara Jean Engstrom of Polk City; Lloyd George Edgerton of El Cajon, Calif.; Mrs. Thelma Anderson of Boone; and Muriel Edgerton of Nederland, Calif. He was preceded in death by his par-

ents and one sister, Velma, on Jan. 17th, 1924.

Mrs. Edgerton is also survived by one sister and one brother, Mrs. Iona Mae Wing of Gresham, Ore., and Paul Worley. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Harry Worley in January of this year.

Rev. and Mrs. Edgerton were members of the Church of the Nazarene and he had held pastorates at Gillette, Wyo.; Lovilla, Col.; and Allerton, Iowa; Ozark, Ark.; and Grinnell. The family had also lived in Desoto, Iowa; Polk City and Monroe, Iowa; and Oakland and Richvale, Calif. They had been residents of Grinnell for the past nine years where he had held the pastorate of the Church of the Nazarene. He had also been employed with the General Telephone Company. Mrs. Edgerton had been employed at Hall's Tailor Shop.