

Thursday, September 15, 1966

Brooklyn Rites Held For Veteran Of Spanish War

Funeral services were held at Brooklyn Wednesday for Luther Niswander, 92, of Brooklyn, that community's last Spanish-American War veteran. He died Sunday at a Grinnell hospital.

Officiating at the services was the Rev. C. W. Woollard, pastor of the Grace Methodist church at Brooklyn.

He was a native of Virginia and had lived in Silvis, Ill., but had been a Brooklyn resident since he was a boy. He was a 62-year member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and was a longtime member of the Methodist church.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Lester Niswander of Silvis, Ill., and two step daughters and their families, Mrs. Phyllis Cram of Grinnell and Mrs. Charlotte Johnson of Cedar Rapids. Also surviving are Karen Roberts and Larry Andes.

Luther Niswander Dies; Was Last Spanish-American War Veteran

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon for Luther Niswander, 92, the last Spanish-American War veteran in this community, who died Sunday morning in St. Francis hospital in Grinnell, where he had been admitted six days earlier.

The rites were held at Bramer Funeral Home with Rev. C. W. Woollard, pastor of Grace Methodist church officiating.

As the last surviving Spanish-American War veteran, Mr. Niswander had appeared in many Memorial Day parades in Brooklyn. An employee of the railroad for 38 years, he had been confined to his home

in recent years because of failing health.

A native of Virginia, he had lived in Silvis, Ill., and Brooklyn since he was a young boy. He was a 62 year member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and was a longtime member of the Grace Methodist church.

Survivors include his widow and a son, Lester Niswander, of Silvis, Ill.

Also surviving are two stepchildren, Mrs. Phyllis Cram of Grinnell and Mrs. Charlotte Johnson of Cedar Rapids, and their families. Also Karen Roberts and Larry Andes.

Preceding him in death was his first wife, Maud.

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Luther Niswander

Luther S. Niswander, 92, died Sunday, Sept. 11, 1966, at a Grinnell hospital where he had been a patient for several days.

Mr. Niswander was a veteran of the Spanish-American war and had been a longtime employee of the Rock Island railroad. He was born in Virginia, however he had lived in Silvis, Ill. and Brooklyn since he was a small child.

He was a 62-year member of the Odd Fellows lodge and also of the Spanish-American War

Veterans organization. He had been a member of Grace Methodist church for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Beulah; a son, Lester, of Silvis, Ill., two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He also leaves two stepchildren, Mrs. LaVaughn (Phyllis) Cram of Grinnell and Mrs. Manfred (Charlotte Johnson) of Cedar Rapids. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Maud.

The Rev. C. W. Woollard, pastor of Grace Methodist church, conducted funeral services Sept. 14 at 2:00 p.m. at Bramer Funeral Home. Leo Shuler was organist. Burial was in I.O.O.F. cemetery.

Pallbearers were Kenneth Gross, Bruce Miller, Lawrence Foster, Cliff Williamson, Wallace Edelen and John Gritsch. Assisting with flowers were Mrs. Freda Read, Mrs. Gladys Spillet and Mrs. Kenneth Gross.

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