

Homer Patton Died Tuesday In California

Body Will Be Brought
To Grinnell For
Masonic Burial Services

Homer E. Patton, superintendent of the Southwestern division of the Western Union Telegraph and Cable company, died in Los Angeles, Calif., Tuesday morning after a period of failing health. He was 64 years old.

The body will arrive in Grinnell Saturday, accompanied by Allen Babcock, Mr. Patton's office manager, and will be at the James funeral home. Masonic services will be held Monday at 2 p. m. at the grave in Hazelwood cemetery.

Mr. Patton was the son of late Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Patton. His mother was buried in Hazelwood only a few days ago.

He never married and is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Edith Knapp of Montezuma and Mrs. Esther Risher of Des Moines and two brothers, Edward C. Patton of Chicago and Paul W. Patton of Cleveland, O.

Mr. Patton rose to early prominence in the telegraph field. He had been associated for 43 years with the Postal and Western Union telegraph companies.

Homer Patton Buried Here

H-R Aug 6, 1951
Masonic Rites In

Hazelwood This P. M.



Homer E. Patton

Masonic burial services were conducted at the grave in Hazelwood cemetery this afternoon for Homer E. Patton, former Grinnell boy who passed away Tuesday, July 31, in Los Angeles, Calif., where he was district superintendent of the Southwestern or Second district of the Western Union Telegraph & Cable company. The impressive Masonic burial ritual was in charge of F. W. Tomasek, Past Master of Hermon lodge. Pall bearers, all Masons, were D. M. Reynolds, B. N. Whitaker, Ross Coutts, Wilbur Molison, Leonard Newton and Paul D. Patterson, superintendent of Western Union at Des Moines.

Mr. Patton was 64 years old. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Patton and was born and reared in Grinnell, starting his telegraph career as messenger boy in an office here.

He went to Des Moines in 1905 and soon was advanced from an operator's job to operation of the switchboard and work in the commercial department. After leaving Des Moines in 1917 he became vice president of Postal Telegraph in

charge of the commercial development and administration sections of the company. After Postal Telegraph merged with the Western Union in 1943, Mr. Patton was associated with the Western Union. He spent ten years in Seattle, Wash., and went from there to San Francisco, Calif., and other western cities. He was regarded as a top executive and was prominent in the telegraph world.

The body arrived in Grinnell Saturday afternoon accompanied by Allan C. Babcock, his office manager and close friend.

Mr. Patton never married. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Edith Knapp of Montezuma, deputy clerk of courts, and Mrs. Esther Risher of Des Moines and two brothers, Edward C. of Chicago and Paul W. of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Patton was a member of the Masonic People's Blue Lodge, in Des Moines, the Scottish Rite bodies of Des Moines, Za Ga Zig Shrine Temple in Des Moines, Island Shrine Temple in San Francisco, the Family Club in San Francisco, the Army and Navy club in San Francisco, the Elks lodge of Des Moines, the Jesters and the Old Timers Morse Telegraphers club of America of which he at one time was president.

Over 300 telegrams were received by the Patton family from top officials and co-workers in the communications industry from all parts of the nation expressing sorrow over the loss of such an outstanding gentleman.