

Francis Sullens, Alberta Sullens

Francis M. Sullens, 87, and Alberta M. Sullens, 84, of Kellogg died of carbon monoxide poisoning Wednesday, Sept. 27, at their home.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Lyle Johnston, pastor of the Kellogg United Methodist Church, officiating. Organist was Margaret Wheeler. Pallbearers were Charles Carnahan, Craig Schwartz, Ken Schwartz, Sam Simon, Craig Veber and Dale Veber. Burial was in Our Silent City Cemetery at Kellogg. Memorials may be made to the Kellogg Historical Society or to the Kellogg United Methodist Church.

Francis Sullens was born April 13, 1902, in Jasper County, the son of Charles and Rosetta DeHart Sullens. He attended school in Jasper County.

Alberta Smith Sullens was born June 7, 1905, in Jasper County, the daughter of Joseph and Mary Hayes Smith. She was a graduate of Newburg High School and attended Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls.

The couple was married June 9, 1927, at Cedar Falls. (They recounted their marriage and honeymoon earlier this year in The Herald-Register's annual bridal edition.) They lived at Kellogg where Mr. Sullens was a bridge construction supervisor for Jasper County and Mrs. Sullens taught school in rural Jasper County and was a homemaker.

They were members of the Kellogg United Methodist Church and the Kellogg Historical Society. Mr. Sullens was a former Kellogg fire chief and a member of the Masonic Lodge.

He is survived by one brother, William E. "Mike" Sullens of Gordon, Neb., and was preceded in death by his parents, one sister and three brothers. She is survived by one brother, Charles L. Smith of Grinnell, and two sisters, Louise Falk of St. Paul, Minn., and Ada Eames of Gilman. She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother and one sister.

Kellogg deaths ruled murder and suicide

The Jasper County medical examiner has ruled that the deaths of two Kellogg residents were a murder and a suicide.

The bodies of Francis Sullens, 87, and his wife Alberta, 84, were found Sept. 27 in their home, dead of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Dr. Pat Edwards, the medical examiner, said Francis

Sullens committed suicide but that Alberta Sullens was a homicide victim because she suffered from Alzheimer's disease. The disease, Edwards said, made her unable to decide whether she wanted to commit suicide.

The couple's car was running in the basement garage and caused the carbon monoxide deaths, authorities said.

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