

Lester Adkins

H-R Nov 13, 1975

rites Friday

B. Lester Adkins, 80, of Newton, formerly of rural Grinnell, died early Tuesday at Skiff Memorial Hospital in Newton.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Smith Funeral Home, with the Rev. Morris Hay, pastor of the Hickory Grove Church, officiating. Music will be provided by Mrs. Harvey Martindale, organist, and Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Sharp, vocalists. Pallbearers will be Leo Ahrens, Virgil Doud, Harold Fleener, Kenneth Keenan, Hollis Parmley, and Donald Phipps. Honorary pallbearers will be M.C. Brooks, Lawrence Decatur, Gus Ebert, Henry Lauber, Leslie Wertz, and Rolla Whitaker. Flower bearers will be Mrs. Leona Ahrens, Mrs. Doris Doud and Mrs. Verona Parmley. Burial will be at Our Silent City Cemetery, Kellogg. Should friends desire, memorials in Mr. Adkins' name may be made to the Hickory Grove Church.

The son of Morris C. and Cansada Cooper Adkins, he was born Nov. 4, 1895, in Rock Creek Township, Jasper County. He attended rural school near his home. In 1903, his family moved to Kellogg and he attended Kellogg public schools.

During World War I, he served with the U.S. Army in France.

On Nov 15, 1922, he was married to Elma Polhamus in Newton. The couple had four children. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Adkins farmed north of Newton for 12 years. They farmed in Rock Creek Township for 41 years, moving to Newton two months ago.

Mr. Adkins was active in the Hickory Grove Church and was a member of Focht-Tennant Post No. 53 of the American Legion and the Grinnell Veterans of World War I. He was a past master of the Victor Grange, a Rock Creek Township trustee for 20 years, and Rock Creek Township assessor for four years.

Survivors include his wife, Elma; his four children, Morris D. of El Segundo, Calif., Mrs. Pery (Gweneth) Schmidt of Huntington Beach, Calif., Mrs. Lyle (Colleen) Wiley of Rte. 3, Grinnell, and Mrs. Wayne (Beverly) Wertz of Newton; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mrs. Effie Doane of Kellogg.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a granddaughter; two brothers, Rex O. Adkins and Russ Adkins; and two sisters, Mrs. Bessie Goddard and Gertrude Adkins.