

Monday, October 12, 1964

Funeral Services For E. J. Farmer At Marshalltown

Earnest J. Farmer, longtime resident of the central Iowa area and resident of Grinnell for the past several years, died Oct. 7 at a Grinnell hospital.

He had lived in Grinnell since 1958 with his daughter, Mrs. Earl (Wilma) Freel.

Born on Feb. 2, 1879, in Wayne county, he was the son of James P. and Elizabeth Ruark Farmer. He later moved to Arkansas with his family. Moving to Marshalltown in 1921, he was employed by the Iowa Power & Light Co. as a streetcar and bus driver. He was the last surviving member of Local 607 of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

He was married on Feb. 24, 1909, to Mattie M. Randall of Toledo. His wife preceded him in death by 12 years.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Earl Freel of Grinnell, Mrs. Zelma Nelson of Minneapolis, Minn., and Mrs. R. J. (Ona) Cole. Also surviving are six grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Ella Hoover of LeGrand; and a brother, S. P. Farmer of Warren, Ariz. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by a daughter, three brothers and 10 sisters.

He was buried Friday in Riverside cemetery in Marshalltown after services were held in the Davis Memorial Chapel. The Rev. John H. Alexander officiated. Pallbearers were all nephews of the deceased and included Melvin Farmer, Lloyd Farmer, Loyle Harrison, Roy Troutner, Earl Farmer, and Fredrick Troutner.