

Inmate Of Poweshiek County Jail Commits Suicide Friday Afternoon

A Grinnell construction worker, Marshall E. Henry, 37, formerly of Mount Vernon, Ark., took his own life early Friday afternoon at the Poweshiek county jail in Montezuma.

Henry had been picked up Nov. 27th and was serving a 10-day sentence on a charge of intoxication.

Just a short time before Henry's suicide, Sheriff William Welsh had taken Richard Craig, one of the accused slayers of Grinnell Police Officer Ralph Ogan, to court across the street. There were other prisoners in the jail at the time but they did not have a view into Henry's cell.

As Welsh was returning to the jail, Henry used his plastic drinking cup to break out the glass in the window of his cell. He then reportedly plunged a sliver of the glass into his neck, severing the jugular vein.

Sheriff Welsh said he discovered Henry bleeding on the floor of his cell within two minutes after the act was committed. Assistant county medical examiner Dr. Keith Caldwell was immediately summoned, but was unable to save Henry's life.

According to Dr. Caldwell, Henry's wounds were so severe that there was no chance of recovery.

Funeral services are to be held early this week through the McNutt funeral home in Conway, Ark.

The son of Sanner and Audra Aiken Henry of Mount Vernon, Ark., Henry was born Mar. 10th, 1926. He received his education in Arkansas and moved to this area about two years ago. He had been employed as a cement finisher in bridge construction work for the Schmidt Const. Co.

On Sept. 14th, 1962, at Marshalltown, he was united in marriage with Pauline Wherry Galbraith. He is survived by his wife, Pauline; two sons and one daughter by previous marriages, Colleen, Marshall Jr., and Mike; and one stepson and two stepdaughters, Timothy Galbraith, Mrs. Ronald Minear, and Mrs. Toby Matherly, all of Grinnell.

Also surviving are his parents: one grandson; two brothers, Max Henry of Little Rock, Ark., and Gene Henry of Mount Vernon, Ark.; and one sister, Frances, of Mount Vernon, Ark.