

Grinnellian Is Crash Victim

Woman Is County's 4th Fatality

Mrs. Elzada Lester, 79
Dies Sunday Night Of
Injuries; Others Hurt

Mrs. Elzada Lester, 79, Grinnell, became Poweshiek county's fourth traffic fatality of 1959 Sunday night when she succumbed to injuries received in a two-car crash east of Grinnell earlier that same day.

Was Passenger

Mrs. Lester was a passenger in a car driven by her brother-in-law, Clifton W. Wheeler, 77, also of Grinnell, when it crashed into a machine operated by August Amick, 37, Osceola.

Highway patrolman Paul Gearhart, investigating officer in the fatal crash, said the accident occurred at about 4:30 p.m. Sunday at the intersection of a gravel road with U.S. Highway 6 about four miles east of here. According to Gearhart, Wheeler was coming from the north and was apparently trying to

cross the highway when he pulled into the path of the west-bound Amick machine.

Apparently Wheeler failed to see the oncoming vehicle or misjudged the distance of the Amick auto.

Four Hospitalized

Both Wheeler and Mrs. Lester were brought to a Grinnell hospital where Mrs. Lester died about four hours later. Wheeler remains in serious condition.

Amick and his wife, Lelah, 35, were also both hospitalized in Grinnell. Amick sustained head and arm injuries and his wife suffered lacerations and a possible fracture of one ankle.

Wheeler's 1948 Hudson coupe and Amick's 1952 Plymouth were both totally demolished.

Services for Mrs. Lester will be held at the James-Schalinske Funeral Home Wednesday at 2 p.m. Dr. G. S. Bruland, Grinnell Methodist church, will officiate. Burial will be at Hale, Mo.

Prior to Mrs. Lester's death, the last traffic death in this county had occurred on July 30. Cyril Cleppe of Brooklyn was the victim in that crash, occurring about four and one-half miles northwest of Hartwick.

Funeral Services Held Yesterday For Mrs. Lester

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon for Mrs. Elzada Lester, who died Sunday evening at a local hospital.

The services were held at the James-Schalinske Funeral Home, with Dr. G. S. Bruland, of the Methodist church, officiating. Soloist was Mrs. Dolph Miller, accompanied on the organ by Mrs. Kathleen Heffner. Services were also held this afternoon at the Methodist church in Hale, Mo. Burial was in the Cameron Cemetery at Hale.

Mrs. Lester was born in Hale on October 17, 1880 to Gabriel and Maude McDaniels Wurster. She attended the Hale schools, and was baptized in and joined the Methodist church there. On April 7, 1904 she was married to William Lester, who died March 19, 1923.

Survivors include two sisters, Fanny Berdell and Zelpha Osgood of Kansas City, Mo.; four brothers, George Wurster of Denver, Colo., Milton of Florida and Frank and Albert of Mankato, Minn., and several nieces and nephews. Two sisters died previously, Myrtle Colliver of Hale, and Katie Wheeler of Grinnell.

Mrs. Lester was a member of the Eastern Star of Mankato, Minn. She had her church membership transferred to the Methodist church of Grinnell in 1957 and was a member of the Matt Hughes Sunday school class.