

H-R November 26, 1979

Croft Pilgrim dies at 89



Croft Pilgrim

Croft L. Pilgrim, of Long Beach, Calif., formerly of Grinnell, died Nov. 21 at the age of 89.

Information concerning funeral arrangements was not immediately available.

The eldest son of Egbert S. and Mary Sulser Pilgrim, he was born March 26, 1890, at the family home southeast of Grinnell. He attended the public schools of Grant Township until 1905 when he enrolled in the Grinnell Academy, graduating in 1910.

In March 1911, he was married to Helen May Hyde and the couple began farming the home farm. After three years, Mr. Pilgrim turned the farm over to his brother, Raymond,

and purchased a farm in the Oak Grove community. He traded that farm for another in the Ewart community five years later. In 1920, the Pilgrims lost their three-year-old son, and shortly thereafter moved to California.

Mr. Pilgrim was associated with Hagen Brothers Chevrolet for 12 years, then represented Equitable Life Insurance of Iowa for 35 years, retiring in 1971. At that time, the Pilgrims moved to California where they made their home with their elder daughter, Mrs. Marguerite Cushman, in Long Beach.

Mr. Pilgrim became active in the First Congregational Church here in 1925. He had served on the board of deacons, as chairman of the board, as moderator, chairman of the men's club, and chairman of the pastoral committee.

While in Grinnell, he was active in Community Chest, the United Fund, the Social Service League and other organizations. He was named "outstanding senior citizen of Poweshiek County" in 1962 by the Grinnell Kiwanis Club.

Survivors include his daughters, Marguerite Cushman of Long Beach and Ruth P. McGuire of Portland, Ore.; a sister, Mary P. Harris of Phoenix, Ariz.; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

H R May 22, 1980 Set memorial for Mr. Pilgrim

A memorial service for Croft L. Pilgrim, a former Grinnell civic and church leader, will be held Saturday, May 24, at 4:30 p.m. at the United Church of Christ-Congregational.

The Rev. Philip J. Ramstad will officiate, and Elbert M. Smith will be organist.

Croft Pilgrim died Nov. 21 in Long Beach, Calif., at 89. His ashes will be interred at Hazelwood Cemetery preceding the services.

He represented Equitable Life Insurance of Iowa for 35 years before his retirement in 1935. He was active in civic

affairs, and was a past moderator, deacon, pastoral committee chairman and men's club chairman for the Congregational Church here.

He also did work for the United Fund and other community drives.

Survivors include daughters, Marguerite Cushman of Long Beach and Ruth P. McGuire of Portland, Ore.; a sister, Mary P. Harris, of Phoenix, Ariz., and six grandchildren.