

J. Lester Tharp Dies In Truck Mishap

17-R July 27, 1964

Grinnellian Is Accident Victim

J. Lester Tharp to 715 Broad St., Grinnell, lost his life Saturday morning in an unusual accident on the Ardie Anderson farm about 10 miles south of Grinnell.

Tharp, a tank wagon operator, was making a delivery at the Anderson farm and had pulled up to the gasoline barrel, which is next to a steep incline.

Anderson told authorities he heard the power take-off on the heavy truck begin in preparation for the unloading process and then a few seconds later heard a loud crash.

The truck had rolled forward down the incline, hit a stump, flipped over in the air and landed on its top, bounced again and landed on its wheels. Tharp was thrown out of the vehicle during its runaway plunge.

In all, the truck rolled and bounced about 150 feet.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday from the James-Schalinske Funeral Home with the Rev. Lloyd Latta officiating. Interment will be in Hazelwood cemetery with graveside services conducted by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Grinnell Lodge No. 358.

The son of William D. and Etta Mae Laird Tharp, he was born April 12th, 1903, at Bloomfield, Iowa. He attended the Ottumwa schools and when he was a youth his parents moved to Gilman where he completed his education.

On June 24th, 1928, he was united in marriage with Vega Lacina at Marshalltown. Following their marriage, they resided at Gilman for 15 years before moving to Grinnell in 1943. He was associated with the Standard Oil Co., for 36 years, operating a tank wagon service and gas bulk

station.

He was a member of the Methodist church and the Odd Fellows lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Vega; a daughter, Mrs. Gerald (Joyce) Estal of Kirksville, Mo.; three sons, Lester and Larry Tharp of Grinnell and Roger Tharp of Richardson, Tex.; two sisters, Mrs. Nora Hamre of Oskaloosa and Mrs. Mary Pangburn of Lewistown, Mont.; and 11 grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one brother, Joseph A. Tharp; two sisters, Mrs. Ruth Van Darin and Miss Lena Tharp; and one granddaughter, Jennifer Lynn Estal.

H-R
Monday, August 10, 1964

OBITUARY

J. LESTER THARP
(Contributed)

J. Lester Tharp, son of William D. and Etta Mae Laird Tharp, was born April 12, 1903, at Bloomfield, Iowa, and entered into rest on July 25, 1964.

He attended school in Ottumwa, and later, after the death of his mother, he moved with his father to a farm near Gilman. He helped with the farm work and continued his schooling.

On June 24, 1928, he was united in marriage with Vega Lacina at Marshalltown. Following their marriage they resided at Gilman. Les began working for the Standard Oil Co. in the spring of 1928. In 1943 they moved to Grinnell where he continued his position as agent for the Standard Oil Co.

To this union were born four children—Lester Joseph, Roger LaVern, Larry Don, and Joyce Virgene.

Mr. Tharp was a member of the Methodist church, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Grinnell Lodge No. 358.

He leaves to mourn his passing his widow; his children, Lester and Larry of Grinnell, Roger of Richardson, Texas; Mrs. Gerald (Joyce) Estal of Kirksville, Mo.; two sisters, Mrs. Nels (Nora) Hamre of Oskaloosa, Ia., Mrs. Fred (Mary) Pangburn of Lewistown, Mont.; several nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one brother, Joseph A. Tharp; two sisters, Mrs. Fred (Ruth) Van Dorin and Miss Lena Tharp; one granddaughter, Jennifer Lynn Estal.

Mr. Tharp will be remembered as one who took much interest in his home, family, friends and community.

Funeral services for Mr. Tharp were held at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, July 29, 1964, at the James-Schalinske Funeral Home. Officiating at the services was the Rev. Lloyd A. Latta.

Interment was in Hazelwood cemetery with graveside rites conducted by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Grinnell Lodge No. 358.