

**Adams County Historical Museum scrapbook clipping with handwritten date of Monday, December 21, 1936**

WM. WENDEL DIES IN FALL FROM TREE FRI.

Son of Philip Wendel of This Place in Tragic Accident

William Wendel, aged 55, of Jefferson township, son of Philip Wendel of East Water street here, was fatally injured at about 10:30 o'clock Friday forenoon on the A. H. Woodward farm along the Ohio-Indiana line, southeast of Berne. Mr. Wendel lived 6 miles east and a short distance south of Berne. He suffered a fractured skull, concussion of the brain and other injuries when he fell from a tree. He died about 15 minutes afterwards.

Wendel and his sons, Herbert and Archie, were cutting down trees near the house of the Woodward farm. One tree, which had been nearly sawed off at the bottom, lodged against another tree. Wendel took an axe and climbed up the tree which they were sawing down. He chopped off a limb which had caught on another tree, and this action caused the tree to fall.

Wendel fell to the ground, a distance of about 35 feet, landing on the back of his head. He was picked up and rushed home and a Geneva doctor was called, but he died soon afterwards without regaining consciousness. It is said that Mr. Wendel was warned by his sons not to climb up the tree, but he took the chance.

Mr. Wendel was born in Mercer County, O., Sept. 26, 1881, a son of Philip and Marguerite Emrick Wendel. He was married to Tena Baker, who survives, together with the following children: Dorsey Wendel, Uniondale; Vilas Wendel, Frankfort; Herbert and Archie Wendel, both at home; Mrs. Elizabeth Linn, Chattanooga, and Mrs. Wilma Young, Salem. The following brothers and sisters survive: John Wendel, Jefferson township; Jacob Wendel, Fort Wayne; Lewis Wendel, Chattanooga; Mrs. John Dailey, Jefferson township, and Mrs. Mary Cable, east of Chattanooga. The father, Philip Wendel survives here, also the stepmother, Mrs. Philip Wendel, and one half-brother, Leslie Wendel of this place.

One son, and two sisters preceded, also his mother.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at the Bethel Brethren church east of Berne, Rev. Frank Johnson officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Philip Wendel, the dead man's father has not been informed of his son's death. The aged Mr. Wendel is in ill health.

**Transcribed by Autumn Callahan**