

Tuesday, December 26, 1939

Last Rites for Local Druggist Wednesday A.M.

Lawrence Kleinhenz Dies of Sudden Heart Attack Sunday

Funeral services for Lawrence H. Kleinhenz, 53, a prominent businessman and a member of the Holthouse Drug Company of this city, whose death occurred suddenly from a heart attack early Sunday morning, will be held at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning from St. Mary's Catholic Church. His death was a shock to the community.

Mr. Kleinhenz had been active all day Saturday at the store and remained on duty until closing time, which was about 11 o'clock at night. During the day he waited on Christmas shoppers and apparently seemed in good health. He chatted with many of his friends and extended season's greetings to those who came into the drug store.

He went to his home, 412 Jackson Street after the store closed. After he retired he became ill and went to the bathroom. He complained of having a chill and a severe pain in the right arm. Mrs. Kleinhenz noticed that he was suffering greatly and called to her daughters to summon a physician. Before medical aid could be administered he died. The attending physician pronounced the heart attack as a coronary occlusion death occurring at 3 o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Kleinhenz was widely known in the city of his birth, having spent his entire life in Decatur. His association with the drug store started when he was a boy of teen age, being clerk for the late John B. Holthouse.

He was the son of John and Mary Kleinhenz and was born April 10, 1886. He attended St. Joseph's School in this city.

From an errand boy and clerk, Mr. Kleinhenz realized his ambition to become one of the proprietors of the drug store. He and Fred Heuer of this city, a partner of many years, were officers of the corporation and both were actively engaged in the business.

About 25 years ago he obtained his license as a registered pharmacist.

On September 17, 1912, Mr. Kleinhenz was married to Miss Vera Ehinger of this city.

Besides the widow, three children, Robert of Chicago and the Misses Ethel and Jane of this city survive. Two sisters, Mrs. George Krick and Miss Rose Kleinhenz and a brother, Arthur Kleinhenz, all of this city, also survive.

Mr. Kleinhenz was a member of St. Mary's Church, the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus, the Holy Name Society and the Loyal Order of Moose.

Pete Reynolds, president of the Chamber of Commerce today issued a request that retail establishments close during the funeral hour, from 9 to 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

The body was returned from the Gillig and Doan Funeral Home to the Kleinhenz residence yesterday, where it may be viewed by friends. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery.

**Adams County Historical Society 1939 Scrapbook, Image 065-066 -  
Transcribed by Jim Cox**