

Monday, 30 August 1937

Bernard T. Terveer Fatally Injured In Automobile-Truck Collision Near City Sunday

Prominent Decatur Man Is Killed In Crash On Old River Road Sunday Morning

Photo: Wreck Victim

Bernard T. Terveer, prominent Decatur man, was fatally injured Sunday morning when his auto collided with a truck, two and one-half miles north of Decatur on the old River road.

SCHAFFER EMPLOYEE

Bernard T. Terveer, 47, a member of one of Decatur's most prominent pioneer families, was fatally injured in an automobile-truck collision Sunday morning, the latest victim of Adams county's rapidly mounting traffic accidents.

The sudden death of Mr. Terveer, father of seven children came as a distinct shock to a host of relatives, friends and business associates.

The victim had left his home early Sunday morning for a short automobile ride, a custom which he had long practiced, before attending services at the St. Mary's Catholic church.

Heading back to Decatur on the old River road about 7:30 o'clock, Mr. Terveer met a milk truck, driven by Max Kreps, 22, who lives southwest of Decatur.

The car and truck met nearly head-on, causing almost instant death to Mr. Terveer. Robert Zwick, Adams county coroner, gave the principal cause of death as shock. The victim suffered a fractured left wrist, a badly bruised right arm, bruises and cuts about the chest and abdomen, and possibly one or two fractured ribs. The accident victim also lost considerable blood.

Mr. Terveer was brought to the Adams county memorial hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Death was practically instantaneous, physicians said.

Auto Demolished

The entire left side and rear end of the auto were practically demolished. The left door of the Chevrolet coach was impaled on the bed of the truck.

After the collision, the milk truck overturned. Kreps, driver of the truck, escaped with only minor cuts and bruises. The truck was badly damaged.

Coroner Zwick stated he would return a verdict of accidental death.

Veteran Employee

Mr. Terveer had been employed as bookkeeper and accountant at the Schaffer Wholesale Hardware company for 23 years and was one of the company's most valued employees.

Mr. Terveer, after graduating from the St. Joseph's school, accepted a position in the Old Adams County Bank. He also served as deputy under Charles Yager in the county treasurer's office.

Native of Decatur

The accident victim was born in Decatur January 2, 1890, the son of Bernard J. and Mary Terveer. He married Miss Frances M. Deininger January 9, 1919.

A faithful member of the St. Mary's Catholic church, Mr. Terveer was a member of the Holy Name Society and the local council of the Knights of Columbus.

Seven children surviving, all living at home are: Mary Martha, John Bernard, David, Thomas, Kathleen, Philip and Carolyn.

Five sisters surviving the: Mrs. Anna Voglewede, Mrs. Minni Holthouse and Miss Mayme Terveer, all living in Decatur; [rest cut off]

Adams County Historical Museum

1937 Scrapbook, image 048

Transcribed by Autumn Callahan