

# Harvey Riesen

October 25, 1890 - June 8, 1969



Photo by Alicia Kneuss

## Harvey Riesen

Date of Death: Sunday, June 8, 1969

Date of Burial: June 10, 1969

Burial: MRE - N ½ Lot 1, Section 6, 4<sup>th</sup> Addition

Harvey Riesen, 79, one of Berne's most widely known businessman, died at 1:35 AM Sunday at Parkview Memorial Hospital in Fort Wayne, where he had been a patient for some time. He was transferred to Parkview Memorial Hospital, where he submitted to recent surgery, from the Adams County Memorial Hospital and had been hospitalized 3 ½ weeks. Mr. Riesen had been in failing health several months. Death was attributed to carcinoma.

Mr. Riesen had been in business here since 1919 when he established the Main Street Service Station on E. Main St. He was in partnership with Walter Schug for many years. In 1923, the firm took on the Nash Auto Agency, and in 1928 added the Chrysler and Plymouth Agency. Mr. Riesen recently sold his interest in the firm to his son, Tom Riesen, who now manages the business, and to his son-in-law, John Smith. He remained in the employment of the firm until he became ill.

Mr. Riesen was the oldest Standard Oil dealer in years of service in Indiana, observing his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a dealer this year.

He was a veteran of World War I, and later was one of the founders of Berne American Legion Post 468. He was a former commander of the post, and also held other offices with this organization. He was a charter member of the Berne Lions Club.

Mr. Riesen at the unintentional knack of making friends and he was one of the most popular businessman in the community. His death, while expected soon, came earlier than members of his family had anticipated.

He was born in Wabash Township, October 25, 1890, a son of Eli and Rebecca Steiner Riesen. He was married in August 1918 to Lola Parr, at Decatur.

Surviving are the wife; three sons, Rex, Keystone; Rex, Geneva and Tom, Berne; a daughter, Mrs. John (Gloria Riesen) Smith, Findley, Ohio, two sisters, Mrs. Arthur (Cordelia) Sprunger, Goshen, and Miss Surlida Riesen, Berne. A son, Harry, a grandson and a brother, Milton, preceded in death.

The body is at the Yager Funeral Home where friends may call. Services will be held at 2 PM Tuesday at the First **Missionary** church which he attended, with Rev. Gerald Gerig officiating. Burial will be in the MRE Cemetery.

**Berne (IN) Public Library Heritage Room**

**MRE Obit Scrapbook**

**Transcribed by Jim Cox**