

## Berne Witness, Adams County, Indiana; Friday, March 24, 1939

FUNERAL FOR L. E. SPRUNGER WILL BE HELD HERE SUN.

Former Berne Young Man Dies at Buffalo on Thursday

Losing a fight for life that had extended over a period of nearly eight weeks, Leslie E. Sprunger, 38, son of Mrs. D. C. Sprunger of Indiana street died at 11:45 o'clock Thursday morning at the Millard Fillmore hospital at Buffalo, N. Y.

Funeral services will be conducted at the First Mennonite church Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock with Dr. C. H. Suckau, pastor of the church, officiating. A brief service will be held at the Mrs. D.C. Sprunger home at 1:30. Interment will be made in the M. R. E. cemetery west of town.

A short service was held at Buffalo this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock and the body, accompanied by his sister, Mrs. P. J. Boehr, will arrive at Fort Wayne at 3:40 a.m. Saturday from where it will be brought here in the Yager funeral car.

Mr. Sprunger became ill of influenza and was admitted to the hospital Friday, February 3, seriously ill with pneumonia. Critically ill for several days, he rallied under expert treatment and was released from the hospital during the week of March 6. Suffering a relapse, he was returned to the hospital Monday, March 13, when an aggravated condition of empyema (sic) caused severe chills and high fever. Mrs. P. J. Boehr, R.N., his sister of Richlandtown, Pa., was constantly at his bedside, and M. F. Sprunger, his brother of Roseville, Ill., during his first illness.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Schindler left here Tuesday evening to be at the bedside of Mrs. Sprunger's brother who was reported "not expected to live." Death was attributed to pneumococcus septicemia, an infection of the blood stream.

Mr. Sprunger was department superintendent at the J. W. Clement Printing company at Buffalo where he first was typographer and later superintendent, serving the firm for five years. He was president of the Buffalo Craftsmen's club and led the delegation to the International convention held at Cleveland.

He was born in Wabash township, one mile south of Berne, February 26, 1901, the youngest son of David and Caroline Tschantz Sprunger. Mr. Sprunger graduated from the Berne high school with the class of 1919, attended Bluffton College at Bluffton, O., a year and was a member of the Men's Glee Club that made the coast-to-coast tour under the direction of Prof. G. A. Lehman during the college term of 1921-22. He studied at the Art Institute at Chicago and was employed several years as a type designer for the Ludlow Typograph Co. of Chicago. He attained high rank in the profession that requires both the artist and the artisan, later going to Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Sprunger was married to Alice Basford, Cincinnati, and a former Berne high school teacher on November 25, 1926. The wedding took place at Springfield, Ill. She passed away February 22, 1936.

Surviving are one daughter, Patricia Joan, age eight, of Buffalo; his mother, Mrs. D. C. Sprunger, who has been seriously ill for nearly two years and the following brothers and sisters; Milton, high school principal at Roseville, Ill., Mrs. John W. (Alieida) Schindler, Berne; Theodore, Leonard, Herbert and

Miss Elma, all of Berne and the immediate community; Mrs. M. S. (Louisa) Amstutz, Highland Park, Michigan, Mrs. P. J. (Frieda) Boehr of Richlandtown, Pa.

Preceding were his wife, father and a sister, Mrs. J. H. (Alvina) Probst.

Mr. Sprunger took an active part in civic and religious affairs and served as deacon of the Presbyterian church at Buffalo where he was a member. While residing in Chicago he served as a deacon in the Fourth Presbyterian church of which Dr. John Timothy Stone is pastor.

**Contributed by Janice Vasilovski**

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Monday, March 27, 1939

Sprunger Rites Held Sunday

Body of Leslie E. Sprunger is Returned Here for Burial

Funeral services were held at the Mennonite Church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock for Leslie E. Sprunger, aged 38, who died in Buffalo, New York Thursday forenoon. The service was in charge of Dr. C. H. Suckau with a quartet composed of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Habegger, Mrs. Martin Neuenschwander and Arlie Habegger furnishing music. Burial was made in the M.R.E. Cemetery. A short service was held at the home of his mother, Mrs. D. C. Sprunger, at 1:30 o'clock.

The body arrived here early Saturday morning. A short service was held at Buffalo, Friday.

Mr. Sprunger was widely known. He was a native of this community and a graduate of the Berne High School.

**Adams County Historical Society 1939 Scrapbook, Image 083 - Transcribed by Jim Cox**