

## **Berne Witness, Adams County, IN; Monday, July 23, 1956**

Menno Stucky, 56, Berne Merchant for 27 years, dies suddenly in his store here Saturday evening

Heart attack fatal to owner of Stucky Department store

Funeral Tuesday at West Missionary Church

Menno Stucky, 56, a local merchant and business man for the past twenty-seven years, passed away suddenly of a heart attack on Saturday night at 8:55 o'clock at his place of business, Stucky's Department Store at 173 West Main street. Mr. Stucky had been in his usual health apparently, until the moment of his fatal seizure. He had, however told Mrs. Stucky a day or so prior that he had lately felt a slight dizziness.

At the time he was stricken, Mr. Stucky was standing behind the thread counter in his store. It was nearly time to close for the day and after waiting on a customer he had engaged in conversation with a local person shortly before his attack. He is said to have turned blue in the face and slumped to the floor behind the counter. His wife and other clerks in the store were nearby. They quickly called help and a local doctor was summoned but death appeared to have occurred instantly.

While yet a young man, Mr. Stucky suffered a sun stroke during the time he was farming, and his health since that time was affected. Several years ago he experienced a slight heart ailment but since then he had not complained of any heart trouble.

Mr. Stucky was owner and manager of Stucky's Dept. Store which he and Mrs. Stucky operated for many years. On leaving the farm Mr. Stucky was employed for a time with Eastern Indiana Oil & Supply Co., after which he went into the grocery business, operating West Main Grocery where Walbert's Cafe is now located. In 1935 he and Noah Rich formed a partnership and entered the drygoods retail business and operated Rich and Stucky Department Store in the building which now quarters the Kroger Store. After the termination of that partnership, on Jan. 1, 1938, Mr. Stucky continued in the drygoods business and operated his store in the building now occupied by Moore's Store. Several years ago he moved his store to its present location.

Mr. Stucky was a member of the Berne Chamber of Commerce throughout his business life and was interested in the town's civic activities. He was a member of the West Missionary Church where he served as a lay member. He served for many years as a Sunday school teacher, served as a church usher for a number of years and on numerous occasions served as a delegate to the Missionary Church Association conventions. Mr. Stucky was also active as a Gideon and served in various capacities in the Bluffton-Berne Gideon Camp.

The deceased was a son of Rev. Christian N. and Catherine Stucky Stucky and was born in Illinois on October 29, 1899. Most of his life however was lived in the Berne community. He was united in marriage with Miss Irene Mosser on October 16, 1922, by the late Rev. Eli Lantz at the parsonage of the Evangelical Mennonite Church.

Surviving are his widow and two children, Mrs. Roger (Vera) Luginbill of Roswell, New Mexico, who with her family happen to be spending the summer in the Stucky home, and Bill at home; one grandchild and the aged parents who reside in the Clinton Dubach home in Hartford township. The father is 93, the mother 87. Surviving also are the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Ernest (Arminda) Sommer and Mrs. Clinton (Silva) Dubach, both of this community; Peter Stucky, Flanagan, Illinois and Ezra Stucky, Gridley, Illinois. Three sisters, Mrs. Jacob Sprunger and Clara, who died at the age of 11 and one in infancy, preceded him in death.

Services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday at the West Missionary church, Rev. Robert Magley officiating. Burial Will be in the M.R.E. Cemetery. A short service will be held at the Yager Funeral Home at 1:40 p.m. Tuesday before the body is taken to the church. Friends may call at the funeral home.

**Contributed by Carolyn**