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James Merrill Teeple, 87, Limberlost Apartments, Geneva, retired salesman for the Preferred Advertising Co., died at 2:45 p.m. Monday at the Jay County Extended Care Center, Portland.

He was a member of the High St. United Methodist Church, the Geneva Masonic Lodge 621, Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne, York Rite of Fort Wayne, Shriners of Fort Wayne, K of P 514 of Geneva, and the Geneva Wabash Valley Golf Club.

Born on Nov. 13, 1891, in Geneva, he was the son of Samuel H. and Cora McCollum-Teeple, and was married to Pauline R. Green on September 30, 1916. She died October 9, 1976.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Thomas (Elaine) Kraner, Folsom, La., two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a brother, J. Floyd, of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at the Downing Funeral Home, Geneva, with Rev. Robert Boggs officiating. Burial will be in the West Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday. Masonic services will be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.