

## First County WW II Volunteer Dies

Joseph C. Hower, 44, of 719 Patterson St., Decatur, Adams county's first volunteer in World War II, died suddenly at 11:35 a.m. Sunday in Adams county memorial hospital.

A son of Carl and Ada Hakes Hower, he was born Feb. 14, 1919 in Decatur. He was married on Dec. 14, 1944 to Virginia Helblig, who survives. At the time of his death he was employed as driver for the Decatur Cab company.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans and the Bluffton Moose lodge.

Surviving are ten children, all of who reside at home. They are Loretta, Connie, Joseph, Karen, Roselyn, Lora, Patti, Terry, Brycella and Brice. Also surviving are three brothers, Ben, Dale and John, all of Decatur; and five sisters, Mrs. Bob Johnson of Decatur; Mrs. Irene Klinetole of Decatur; Mrs. Joe LaTurner of Decatur; Mrs. Bob Mendez of Decatur, and Mrs. Blas Mendez of Decatur.

The body is at the Winteregg-Linn funeral home in Decatur, where friends may call after 7 p.m. this evening. Services will be held at the funeral home at 2 p.m. Wednesday, with the Rev. M. H. Nolin officiating. Burial will be in the Decatur cemetery, where military graveside rites will be held.