

Dated October 6, 1960

Adams county Girl Is Dead Of Polio

Adams county recorded its first polio death in a number of years Wednesday afternoon, when 11-year-old Barbara Gerardot, of Monroeville route 2, died unexpectedly at 2:50 p.m. at the Parkview memorial hospital in Fort Wayne.

The polio victim, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gerardot, Jr., was stricken with high spinal poliomyelitis early in August, but hospital authorities said she had not shown signs of regression. She had been in an iron lung, but had been permitted out of the respirator for an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon as it was believed she was improving. Her paralysis was confined to the spinal area.

The girl had no record of polio vaccine shots, according to hospital records. One of her sisters was stricken at the same time but has been dismissed with no ill effects.

Aid for the girl's treatment has been provided by the Adams county polio chapter.

The Gerardot family belongs to the St. Mary's Catholic church in Decatur.

Funeral Saturday

Surviving in addition to her parents are a brother, Stephen, and four sisters, Patricia, Laura, Carol and Nancy, all at home; the paternal grandfather, Ralph Gerardot, Sr., of Decatur, and the maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Anderson of Monroeville route 1. The father is employed by the American Hoist & Derrick Co. in Fort Wayne.

Funeral services will be conducted at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Catholic church in Decatur, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Simeon Schmitt officiating. Burial will be in the St. Rose Catholic church cemetery at Monroeville. Friends may call at the Marquart funeral home in Monroeville after 7:30 p.m. today. The Rosary will be held at the funeral home Friday evening at 7:30.

Transcribed by Janice Vasilovski