

(Handwritten date: Saturday, October 19, 1940)

...ON MAYSVILLE ROAD

Carol Rudolph, 13, Dies of Fractured Skull, Internal Injuries

BODY LIES ALONG HIGHWAY ALL NIGHT

Sheriff's Office Puts Out Net For Motorist; Clues Are Meager

Thirteen-year-old Carol Rudolph was killed by a hit-and-run driver on the Maysville Road, half a mile from her home, Friday night.

The body, which had lain in the ditch along the lonely stretch of highway all night, was found at daybreak today by motorists.

She was the daughter of T. E. Rudolph, Route 9, and lived alone with her father. Her mother has been dead for some years.

Coroner A. P. Hattendorf said death was caused by a fractured skull and internal injuries.

Sheriff's deputies, working on meager clues, today had thrown out a net for a driver, whose car was apparently traveling down the left side of the highway when he struck the child.

Lieut. Custer Dunifon and the Fort Wayne Traffic Department were co-operating today with the Sheriff's office in an attempt to trace the hit-run car. Officer Ward Hall was assigned to the case and will work in co-operation with Deputy Sheriff Walter Adams and Sheriff Walter Feiger.

Relatives said the girl, who was a student in the New Haven School eighth grade, had left her home shortly after dark Friday evening to go to the home of two girl chums, Wanda and Jean Larson, daughters of Fred Larson, who live less than a mile west of the Rudolph home. The three girls had planned to "go Halloweening."

Mr. Rudolph was gone when Carol left, and she wrote a note explaining where she had gone. When she did not arrive at the Larson home, the girls walked to the Rudolph home, found no one there, and returned to their own home. On both trips the girls walked within a few feet of their chum's body.

MEN FIND BODY

When Mr. Rudolph returned home and found the note, he assumed Carol had returned home and gone to bed, and did not look into her room. It was not until officers told him this morning of the discovery of the body that he found she had never reached the Larson place.

Joe Miller, Route 1, New Haven, and Amos Lengacher, Route 2, Grabill, on their way into Fort Wayne about 6:30 a.m. today, saw the body and notified the sheriff's office.

The girl's body was found on the south side of the road. She had been walking west, and marks on the body indicated she was struck from behind. These facts led officers to believe the car which hit the girl was on the wrong side of the road at the time.

Miss Rudolph was well known in the community, and active in the New Haven school, where she had for some years been a member of the school band.

Surviving besides the father, are three brothers, Robert, Route 9, Fort Wayne; Donald of the Leo Road, and William, who is with the U.S. Coast Guard, stationed at Fairport, O.; two grandmothers, Mrs. William Rudolph and Mrs. Matilda Kiefer, both of Fort Wayne; one niece and two nephews.

The body was taken to the C. M. Sloan & Sons Mortuary, where it may be viewed after 7 p.m. today. Funeral services will be held Monday with the Rev. Otis Jones in charge. Burial will be in the New Haven IOOF cemetery.

Adams County Historical Museum

1940 Scrapbook, image 142

Transcribed by Karin King