

(Handwritten date: Monday, September 9, 1940)

## DAVID BAKER, LAST CIVIL WAR VETERAN IN COUNTY IS DEAD Adams County's Final Veteran of War of States Died Last Sunday Night RITES WEDNESDAY

Taps were sounded last night for Adams county's last member in the rapidly diminishing ranks of the veterans of the Civil War, when David Baker, 93, succumbed at his home in Blue Creek township.

Mr. Baker, who until a short time ago was unusually spry considering his advanced age, lived more than a year after the names of all other Civil War veterans of the county had been inscribed on the honorary roll of the dead.

During the last decade, the county had boasted four living Civil War veterans. They were Silas Hale of Geneva, R. A. Drummond of Root township, William Parr of near Berne and Mr. Baker. Then Father Time began taking his toll and they died in that order, Parr's death occurring little more than a year ago.

Mr. Baker had not been seriously ill and his death came rather suddenly, although he had not been in good health since last November. On April 6, of this year, he posed for a photograph with French Quinn, local honorary member of the G.A.R.

Sunday morning he arose early as was his custom and chatted with his son, Curtis B. Baker, with whom he made his home. Before noon, however, he complained of feeling ill and a physician was summoned. The physician left medicine, which the son administered until his father's death about 10 p.m. (CDT)

Mr. Baker, a staunch-hearted patriotic youth of 16, enlisted in the ranks of the Union army in February, 1863. His enlistment was made with Company G, 54th Ohio infantry - with the Ohio infantry since his home was in Willshire, Ohio at that time. For 18 months he served with the "Boys in Blue," before receiving an honorable discharge.

He returned to his native Wabash township, Adams county residence and had resided there most of the time after the war, living for a short time again in Willshire.

Mr. Baker was born on September 5, 1847, the son of Henry and Mary Frank-Baker, pioneer mid-west settlers. He was married to Sarah Weimer, who preceded him in death 17 years ago. He was the last of a large family of brothers and sisters.

Surviving besides the son, Curtis B., is another son, Charles F., who lives near Roanoke in Allen county. Mr. Baker was an active member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and the G.A.R., until his age and health forced him to retire. He also attended church at the Willshire Methodist church as long as his health permitted.

### FUNERAL WEDNESDAY

Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock (CDT) at the home, (cut off) ...south of Pleasant Mills, and 2:30 o'clock at the Willshire Methodist church. Burial will be in the Willshire cemetery.

Military funeral rites are to be held at the grave. Officers of Adams Post No. 43, American Legion are to meet tonight to arrange for these services.

The body was taken to the Buchanan funeral home at Willshire and was to be returned to the residence late this afternoon. The body may be viewed until time for the services on Wednesday.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Handwritten date: Monday, September 9, 1940)

(Photo) LAST VETERAN DIES

David Baker, Adams county's last surviving veteran of the Civil War, died at his home near Pleasant Mills Sunday night.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Handwritten date: Friday, November 15, 1940)

#### BROTHER-IN-LAW OF LOCAL MAN IS KILLED

Word was received late Thursday evening of the death of Merlyn Maynard, 36, of Stockport, Ohio, brother-in-law of J. Ward Calland of this city. My Maynard, who is a contractor, was crushed by a landslide while working on a building site.

He is survived by the widow, who is a sister of Mr. Calland, and four children. Mr. and Mrs. Calland left early this morning for Stockport, where they will remain for several days.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Handwritten date: Friday, November 15, 1940)

#### DOROTHY KRANER DIES SUDDENLY

Geneva Girl Dies Suddenly at Fort Wayne Funeral Sunday

Funeral services for Dorothy Kraner, 20, of Geneva, who died suddenly at Fort Wayne Thursday will be held Sunday afternoon.

The services will be held Sunday afternoon at 1:45 o'clock at the home in Geneva and 2 o'clock at the Geneva U.B. church. Burial will be in the Riverside cemetery.

Miss Kraner died at the home of her uncle, Elmer Raymond in Fort Wayne. She had undergone a tonsillectomy recently and Thursday she suffered a choking spell which resulted in her death. Complications from the operation was given as the cause.

She was born in Geneva August 24, 1920, the daughter of Clyde and Martha Aeschliman-Kraner. She had been employed for some time as a telephone operator at Geneva.

Surviving are the parents, a brother, Richard of Celina, Ohio, and a sister, Elizabeth at home.

**Adams County Historical Museum**

**1940 Scrapbook, image 150**

**Transcribed by Karin King**