

(Handwritten date: Monday, June 28, 1943)

DAVID McWHIRTER DIES SUN. EVENING

Rites at Geneva Wednesday Afternoon of Former Station Agent

David J. McWhirter, grandfather of Colvin McWhirter of this place, and a former Geneva resident, passed away Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at a hospital in New Castle, where he had been admitted seven weeks ago. Death followed several paralytic strokes which he suffered the past four years.

Mr. McWhirter, who had served as a station agent for the Pennsylvania railroad for many years, had been making his home with a son, Forrest, at Losantville.

He was born at Hoagland on December 24, 1886 [sic] and moved to Geneva about 35 years ago, where he was station agent. He was a son of Hugh and Martha McConnahay - McWhirter. He was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth McIntosh of Hoagland. She preceded him in death last February 2.

Surviving is the son Forrest, a sister Mrs. Grace Hunsicker of Hamilton. A son Carl preceded him.

Funeral services will be held at the Geneva Methodist church, of which he was a member, on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Burial will be in the Decatur cemetery. Rev. Claude Fawns will officiate.

Birth should be 1866

(Handwritten date: Friday, June 25, 1943)

LAD DRIVES TRACTOR THROUGH BANK BARN PULLING LOAD OF HAY THURS.

Seldom a hay making season passes without producing a strange accident, and the present harvest is no exception. A most unusual mishap occurred at the Walter Lehman farm a short distance northwest of town at 5:00 yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Lehman and several of his sons were putting up hay and when one of the loads was being drawn into the barn by a Ford tractor, the lad operating it, failed to get the tractor stopped, driving it right through the bank barn, catapulting it down on a soft manure pile for a drop of some ten or twelve feet. No one was injured and because of the "soft" landing the tractor was only slightly damaged. After the nose dive it fell over on its side.

Milton, 11, was driving the wagon, and his cousin, Jerry Lehman, also 11, was riding with him. The latter jumped clear of the falling tractor but dashed to the house as fast as he could run to clean up the mess he got into, as soon as he saw everything else was not too bad.

Milton had been operating the tractor all afternoon pulling the wagon and loader while his father loaded. Joseph, a smaller boy, followed behind as gleaner. Norman and Gerald worked in the mow. All had gone good until on this particular load, when somehow Milton failed to get the tractor stopped. Walter and Joseph were on the load going into the barn and they saw themselves going toward the opening, but when the tractor fell, the wagon tongue broke, stopping the load.

The boys and Walter took the accident calmly, hitched their other tractor to the one mired in the manure and pulled it out. After a few repairs at a local machine shop it was ready for work again today. Incidentally, the lucky tractor is the one Mr. Lehman purchased at the Edwin Beer sale some months ago, when many bidders offered the ceiling price and Lehman was lucky on the drawing.

(Handwritten date: Friday, June 18, 1943)

11 COMPLETE LIFE SAVINGS COURSE

Red Cross Course Given at Pine Lake Finished Last Night

Eleven local swimmers last evening completed the American Red Cross Life Saving course, which was offered at Pine Lake west of town, under the instruction of Don W. Tiesburg, of Decatur, of the Fort Wayne district Boy Scout.

The course included four lessons of three to four hours each, one lesson was given last week and ensuing lessons on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Those completing the courses are the following: Calvin Beitler, Thomas Sprunger, John Henry Sprunger, Jerome Yager and Miss Doris Bradender, receiving the senior life saving certificate. Those receiving the junior certificate are Loren Sprunger, Jim Burdgd, Arthur Schwartz, Kent Sprunger, Charles McCrory, and Junior Fields, the latter being from Geneva.

(Handwritten date: Wednesday, June 30, 1943)

Miss Devonna Habegger, Miss Margaret Belle Sprunger and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Steury returned yesterday afternoon from Petersburg, Virginia, where they had visited for a few days. Miss Habegger was the guest of Pvt. and Mrs. Willard Wulliman, Miss Sprunger visited with her brother and sister-in-law, Pvt. and Mrs. Max Sprunger and the Steurys visited with their daughter and son-in-law, Cpl. and Mrs. Simon Schwartz and son Rodney.

(Handwritten date: Wednesday, June 30, 1943)

GRANT HABEGGER TO WED

A marriage license has been issued at Fort Wayne to Grand Andrew Habegger, Fort Wayne laborer, and Barbara June Riley, laborer, also of that city. Habegger is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Habegger east of town. According to information the (cut off)

Adams County (IN) Historical Society

1943b Scrapbook, Image 103

Transcribed by Karin King