

(Handwritten date: Wednesday, Nov. 3, 1943)

VANCE MATTAX, 65, FARMER DIES EARLY TODAY

Funeral Friday Afternoon at Spring Hill For Former Monroe Tp. Trustee

Vance Mattax, 65, former Monroe township trustee and prominent farmer northeast of town, passed away this morning at 2:30 o'clock at his home after an extended illness of diabetes and complications. He had been bedfast the past sixteen weeks and was relieved of his suffering this morning, following a recent heart attack. For a number of years Mr. Mattax has been afflicted with diabetes. At times his condition became serious and then for a time he would rally. Last summer he experienced a sun stroke and since that time there have been heart and other conditions.

Irenios Vance Mattax was a native of Monroe township and spent his entire life in this community. He was a son of Laban and Jennie Burkholder-Mattax, and was born on April 27, 1878, bringing his age to 65 years, 6 months and 6 days. On February 18, 1905 he was married to Miss Carol [sic] Elizabeth Myers, who survives him.

Always interested in the activities of the community, he served as trustee of his township for two terms, from 1924 to 1932. He maintained a fine farm home and took part in the civic affairs in his community. He was a member of the Spring Hill church located immediately east of his farm.

Surviving besides his wife are the following children: Irenios of Decatur; Louis, Mrs. Vesta Wable of northeast of here, Mrs. Edith Smitley and Mrs. Vera Fugate of Decatur; Othella, Laurel, Robert and Rowena at home. There are also seven grandchildren. A brother, Chalmer, in infancy and three grandchildren preceded him.

The body was returned to the home from the Yager mortuary this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Funeral services will be held on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Spring Hill church, preceded by a short service in the home. Burial will be in the Spring Hill cemetery. Rev. Edgar Johnston and Rev. John S. Clawson will be in charge of the service.

(Handwritten date: Friday, September 24, 1943)

FUNERAL SAT. MORNING FOR MRS. P. BAUMGARTNER

Heart Attack Fatal To Elderly Berne Lady Wednesday Evening

Mrs. Bertha L. Saurer-Baumgartner, 79, widow of Peter J. Baumgartner died suddenly Wednesday evening at 5:30 o'clock of a heart attack. Her condition lately had been quite poorly because of her heart ailment, from which she has been suffering the past six months. Death occurred at the home of her son, Grover C. Baumgartner on East Franklin street.

Mrs. Baumgartner had suffered several attacks recently, but was again able to be up. Mrs. M. M. Baumgartner had called on her about a half hour before the fatal attack and together they had enjoyed their visit outside on the lawn in the inviting autumn atmosphere. Following the visit, Mrs. Baumgartner returned to the house and was eating a dish of ice cream when the fatal heart seizure occurred, death taking place instantly.

The deceased was a native of French township, being born on July 1, 1864, a daughter of John C. and Elizabeth Johntree-Saurer, both natives of Switzerland. She was married to Mr. Baumgartner in February, 1885. He was a hardware dealer here for many years and the family formerly resided on North Jefferson street. Her husband preceded her in death quite a number of years ago.

Surviving are four children: Homer (?) H., of Los Angeles, California; Grover C. of this place; Ilma E., wife of Horace Caffee, of Downers Grove, (?), Ill., and Carl E. of Fort Wayne; also nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Two brothers and a sister also survive, Calvin Saurer of Richmond, Mrs. Edward Luginbill of Jefferson township and Albert Saurer of Fort Wayne. Two sisters, two sons and two daughters preceded her.

The body was taken to the Yager funeral home, where it may be viewed.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the Cross Reformed and Evangelical church, with Rev. C. A. Schmid officiating. Burial will be in the M.R.E. cemetery.

(Handwritten date: Friday, November 12, 1943)

MRS. HATTIE JACK, WIFE OF INVALID, DIED THURSDAY
Lay Dead Beside Husband's Bed 2 Hours Before Calls Are Answered

Mrs. Hattie C. (Schrank) Jack, 65, wife of Albert Jack, died suddenly Thursday afternoon at about 4 o'clock at the home five and one half miles east and one and one half miles north of Berne in Blue Creek township. Death was caused by a heart attack and a complication caused by dropsy. She had been ailing for the past six weeks.

Unusual circumstances at the home as well as with her death arouse the sympathy and pity of the entire community.

Mr. Jack, her husband, is an invalid, totally helpless because of arthritis and is almost totally blind. The couple have been living alone for quite a number of years and Mrs. Jack has been caring for her helpless husband, who can not so much as move a hand or foot or turn his head. It was while she was trying to administer a bit of comfort to him yesterday afternoon when her death occurred.

She was trying to turn him a bit when she said she was becoming dizzy. Albert noticed her sink down between his bed and the wall and felt her hands slip off his body. He called to her but she did not answer. He called repeatedly but she never answered.

It happened that the transoms above two doors in the home were open and as he continued to call for help he finally attracted the attention of the tenants of the Mrs. Lewis farm across the road who were in their cornfield. It was not uncommon to them to hear his voice, so at first they did not pay much attention, but when at nightfall the lights in the Jack house did not go on, they went over to see if something more than usual was wrong. As they came nearer, they could hear him say, "Someone come, Hattie (cut off)

[Karin King note: buried Mona View Cemetery, Muskegon County, Michigan]

Adams County (IN) Historical Society

1943b Scrapbook, Image 134

Transcribed by Karin King