

## Judge G. Remy Bierly dies Friday evening; former appellate judge

G. Remy Bierly, 82, of 110 South Third street, former Indiana appellate court judge, state representative, county clerk, prosecuting attorney, school teacher, and abstractor, and the county's oldest practicing attorney, died at 6 p.m. Friday at Parkview memorial hospital, Fort Wayne.

The former jurist had been hospitalized in a deep coma from injuries suffered in a fall in a barn in Hartford township Sept. 8.

At the time of the accident, Mr. Bierly was attorney at the Sherman Anthony Watson sale in Hartford township. He left a group of men, and when they missed him a short time later, found him unconscious in the barn, where he had either fallen very hard against a corner, or possibly been kicked by a farm animal.

It was first believed he had suffered a stroke, and then fractured skull, but apparently the concussion was the main damage.

### **Native of Indiana**

Born in Harrison county July, 6, 1887, he was a son of Fred and Louise Englert-Bierly. He was married to Miss Florence C. Fink June 18, 1913.

His two terms as appellate court judge, during which he sat several times as chief justice, culminated a full life of public service.

Judge Bierly served on the state's second highest court from 1959 to 1963, and from 1965 until 1969. He was thrice nominated by the Democratic party, having lost the 1962 election.

After receiving the Bachelor of science degree from Marion Normal College, Marion, he entered Indiana State Normal, where he attained his life teaching license, and then continued his education at Indiana University, where he was awarded the bachelor of arts degree. He also did post graduate work at the University of Chicago.

Mr. Bierly was a district school teacher and then principal of the Elizabeth, Pennville, Bryant, Tocsin, and Jackson township consolidated high school in Jay county.

He then was elected Adams county clerk, later prosecuting attorney and then entered in the practice of law here.

### **Headed Commission**

In 1951 Mr. Bierly was a member of the Indiana constitution centennial commission, and eight years served as member and chairman of the Anthony Wayne Parkway commission by appointment with the governor. His professional memberships include the Adams county, Indiana State, American, and Indianapolis bar association. He was admitted to practice law before the U.S. supreme court in 1960, and was admitted to practice before the board of naturalization and immigration.

Fraternally, he was affiliated with the Hamill Indianapolis chapter of the Phi Alpha Delta honorary fraternity, and the American Society for legal history. In 1915, while at I.U., he was awarded the John W. Foster prize.

In 1960, Mr. Bierly was named a Kentucky colonel, and in 1961 was appointed by the governor a sagamore of the Wabash.

Politically, Mr. Bierly was state representative from Harrison county from 1913 until 1915, and was joint state representative from Crawford and Harrison counties from 1923 until 1925.

He was Adams county Democratic chairman from 1942 to 1946, was a delegate to the Democratic national convention in Los Angeles in 1960, and was alternate delegate to the 1964 convention in Jersey City.

He was Adams county clerk from 1937 until 1941, was prosecuting attorney from 1945 until 1947, and was joint state representative from Adams and Wells counties from 1951 until 1953.

### **Funeral Monday**

Mr. Bierly was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church, the Holy Name society, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Chamber of Commerce, the Decatur Lions club, and the Elks and Moose lodges. He was a past president of the Adams county bar association

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Dr. George Bierly and Fred Bierly, both of Louisville, Ky.; three daughters, Mrs. Robert C. (Florence Marie) Price of Louisville, Ky., Mrs. Donald (Fern) Wait of Fort Wayne, and Mrs. Thomas (Joan) Terveer of Alliance, O.; one sister, Mrs. Robert Schooley of Auburn; one brother, Walter Bierly of Louisville, Ky.; and 17 grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday at St. Mary's Catholic church, with Rt. Rev. Msgr. Simeon Schmitt officiating. Burial will be in Buena Vista cemetery at Elizabeth Tuesday. Friends may call at the Gillig-Doan & Sefton funeral home after 12 noon Sunday until time of the services. The Fourth Degree K. C. will post an honor guard from 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday and the rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Sunday.

The Adams county bar association and bar associations from adjoining counties will hold a memorial service at 9 a.m. Monday at the Adams circuit court room. (Oct. 24, 69)

**Decatur (IN) Public Library**

**Obit Book E, image 39, p. 36**

**Transcribed by Janice Vasilovski**