

(Handwritten date: Monday, December 20, 1943)

INJURY FATAL TO ONE TRUCK DRIVER

Doyle Hughes, 27, Succumbed Saturday Evening - Elrod Holding Own

Doyle Hughes, 27, of Cowpens, South Carolina, one of the drivers of the two trucks which figured in a head-on collision just north of the Wabash river bridge south of town sometime after 8 o'clock last Thursday evening, died at the Adams County Memorial hospital Saturday evening at 5:30 o'clock of injuries sustained in the crash. Mr. Hughes underwent an operation Friday afternoon for serious abdominal injuries. Little, if any, hope had been held for him from the time of the crash. A surgery was the only chance and his condition failed to respond.

The other driver, Orval Elrod, 38, of Scottsburg, Indiana, and the driver of a large semi-trailer outfit for the Morgan Packing company of Austin, is reported at the county hospital as holding his own. He is still semi-conscious and suffering from a badly broken skull and crushed nose, besides numerous lacerations. His recovery is still questionable.

The body of Mr. Hughes has been shipped to his home at Cowpens, S. C. for burial and was accompanied by his widow, who had been at his bedside at the hospital.

Mrs. Elrod is also with her injured husband, having arrived at the hospital Friday morning.

The wreckage of the large semi-trailer job was dragged out of the deep ravine between the levies of the Pennsylvania railroad and road 27 into which it plummeted after the collision. A large wrecker owned by the Morgan Packing company was brought here to handle the wreckage and to tow it back to the plant's garage at Austin. Traffic on road 27 south to Geneva was detoured Friday afternoon until 6 o'clock until the wreckage was removed. The outfit was almost a total wreck and be salvaged only for parts. (cut off)

Adams County (IN) Historical Society

1943b Scrapbook, Image 169

Transcribed by Karin King