

Joel P. Schwartz, Brother Of Local Man, Slain Last Night, Wife Wounded Badly

An Amish farmer living near Centerville, Michigan, a few miles from Nottaw, Michigan, was killed last night and his wife critically wounded by a 21-year -old youth who resented the fact that they refused to permit him to date their 16-year-old daughter.

Killed outright was Joel P. Schwartz, 57, a brother to Joseph P. Schwartz, who lives two miles north and 1 ½ miles east of Berne.

The victim's wife, Vivian, 57, is in a hospital at Centerville where she is reported critical from gunshot wounds.

The two were shot by Carlyle Alan Schragg, 21, who lives on an adjoining farm. He has been trying to date the girl for some time, Michigan authorities said. Last night he called at the Schwartz home and was met by her parents at the door who told him that because of religious differences they do not want their daughter to date him. An argument followed and Schwartz and Schragg left the house and went to the hog pen on the farm where the argument continued. Schragg pulled a gun and shot and killed Schwartz. The young man then went back to the house where he shot Mrs. Schwartz in the chest. In spite of being critically wounded, Mrs. Schwartz grappled with Schragg and the gun discharged again, wounding Schragg, but not critically.

Schwartz is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Schwartz and was born at Alpena, Michigan. He was widely known and called "Jolly" and was well known to many local people. He has many relatives here in addition to the brother. His wife, was the former Vivian Wilds.

Surviving in addition to the wife are two daughters, three sons, the brother here, two brothers, Chris and Jacob in Pennsylvania and a sister, Mrs. Emma Stauffer who resides in Michigan.

Schwartz was an uncle to John T. Schwartz of this city. (April 6, 1962)

Berne, IN Library

Adams County Obits 1962-1964, image 5

Transcribed by Janice Vasilovski