

Newspaper Clippings



Robert Lempka

Robert Lempka of Tecumseh died at 12:45 o'clock Sunday, November 12, 1961, in the Johnson County hospital in Tecumseh, where he was taken the previous Monday night. He had been in failing health for five months. The cause of his death was from complications after suffering a stroke.

Mr. Lempka was born at Colony Grabine, Zielz Krise Newstate, Obershlesien, Germany, June 6, 1871. His parents were Emmanuel and Veronica (Puttinger) Lempka. He obtained his schooling in Germany, as well as some military training. He learned the tailoring trade before coming to this country in 1889 with his parents and the five other children in the family at that time. He lived on a farm northwest of Tecumseh and then came to the west edge of Tecumseh and lived there for the rest of his life.

His marriage to Mary Pierdel of St. Mary took place at St. Mary in 1893. Mrs. Lempka died in 1895.

Mr. Lempka's second marriage was to Mary Graba of Tecumseh, June 10, 1897. His second wife also is deceased.

Mr. Lempka was the father of six children. He was a life-long Catholic and was affiliated with the Royal Highlander lodge.

Mr. Lempka worked as a farm hand for about two years, and then got a tailoring job and bought his own shop in 1898. He sold his tailoring business in 1911, and farmed for the remainder of his life.

All through his life Mr. Lempka had many accidents and mishaps. One of these was when hedge posts fell on him, and some of his ribs were broken. At another time, a cow caused him to break his leg. A third accident was when a tractor rolled down a bank with him. After a little recuperation in a hospital after each accident, he was able to get back on his feet. He was able to continue working up until the last few months of his life.

Mr. Lempka was the last of a family of eight children.

Surviving Mr. Lempka are two daughters, Mrs. William (Veronica) Chambers of Neligh and Mrs. Frank (Agnes) Hillard of Denver, Colo., and four sons, Frank R. Lempka and Leo A. Lempka of Tecumseh and Clarence R. Lempka of Lincoln and Dr. Arnold W. Lempka of Omaha; 13 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

The funeral was held in St. Andrew's Catholic church of Tecumseh, with Rev. James Halligan of Tecumseh, pastor of the church, officiating. Pallbearers were Mr. Lempka's grandsons, Francis Lempka, Kenneth Lempka and Donald Lempka, also Mr. Lempka's nephews, Albert Lempka, Arthur Lempka and Edward Kroll. Burial was in St. Andrew's Catholic cemetery near Tecumseh.

Among those from out of town attending the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Koons and children of York, Mrs. Mary Lone, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pilster, Miss Patricia Lempka and Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Lempka of Omaha, Mr. and Mrs. William Chambers

of Neligh, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hillard and daughter, Miss Mary Ann Hillard of Denver, Colo., and Mr. and Mrs. Francis Lempka and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lempka of Lincoln.

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