

Anna Elmer

Oct. 13, 1853 – January 1937

Mrs. John Elmer, 83 Years of Age, Dies After Long Sickness Highly Esteemed Dutch Hollow Resident is Summoned

Apparently in her usual health, Mrs. John Elmer, 83 years old, a native of Washington township and for many years a highly esteemed resident of the Dutch Hollow neighborhood several miles southeast of Monticello, died quietly and unexpectedly in her home there about 9 o'clock Monday morning.

Ill in November

Late in November and early the following month, Mrs. Elmer had been quite ill, but in recent weeks, she appeared to have regained her former health, having been up and around as usual during the past week. Monday morning, however, she failed to arise and she asked her brother, Peter Elmer, Parkersburg, Iowa, who had spent the past month with her, for a glass of water. As his sister was sipping the water, Mr. Elmer noticed that she seemed ill. He immediately telephoned to John Loeffel, a neighbor living only a short distance away, and although the latter came immediately, Mrs. Elmer had passed away in the meantime.

Native of Washington

A native of Washington township, Anna Elmer was born Oct. 13, 1853, a daughter of Peter and Anna Woelsleger Elmer, who were numbered among the early settlers of this territory. Their home was situated on a tract of land now belonging to the Henry C. Elmer farm, about 1 1/2 miles west of Monticello, nearby to what for years has been known as the Monticello Shooting Park.

On Dec. 21, 1870, she was united in marriage to John Elmer, a native of Switzerland and veteran of the civil war, who later became known as one of the most successful farmers in Dutch Hollow and the surrounding area. Seldom has a nuptial union been marked by the devotion, the mutual admiration, and the happiness which formed a halo of supreme contentment around this fine couple through nearly fifty years of married life which ended with the death of Mr. Elmer June 25, 1920, just a few months before their golden wedding anniversary. Since then Mrs. Elmer had resided alone, choosing to live among familiar surroundings where she spent the greater part of her life-time. So deeply devoted was she to the memory of her deceased husband that Mrs. Elmer had left the family home only a very few times since his death.

Admired Mrs. Elmer

Neighbors and friends knew and admired Mrs. Elmer for her profound, unshakable belief in religion which she faithfully followed in her daily life. Ever cheerful and always smiling—even in the face of keen personal disappointments—Mrs. Elmer, by the splendid example of womanhood which she afforded, instilled inspiration and hope into the lives of less courageous individuals with whom she came into contact during her long lifetime.

Although she was in a position to avail herself of many of life's luxuries, Mrs. Elmer lived a life of simplicity in which she found deep satisfaction. In providing for others—and she was a generous giver—she derived her greatest enjoyment, even in earlier days when her acts of kindness and generosity often involved personal privations.

If ever a scroll is framed of noble women who have graced this earth, there, surely, will be the name of Mrs. Elmer. The sphere of life of this grand little woman was a small one, but the beauty of her wonderful character shined far beyond its limited borders.

Survivors are four sons, M. J. Elmer and J. P. Elmer, both of Monroe; U. J. Elmer, Monticello, and Dr. M. C. Elmer, Pittsburgh, Pa.; one daughter, Mrs. W. R. Shisler, Tiffin, Ohio; 16 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren: one great-great-grandchild; and two brothers, Peter, Parkersburg, Iowa, and Emil, Austin, Minn. A daughter, Mrs. Victoria Hillman, preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1:30 p. m. today in the Shriner-Neushwander funeral home, Monroe. Rev. A. C. Rabehl, pastor of the Immanuel Evangelical church of that city, will preside at the services which will be followed by interment in Dutch Hollow cemetery. Pallbearers will be grandsons of the deceased— Hollis J. Elmer, Monroe; Nathan Hillman, Summan, Ind.; Victor U. Elmer, Albany; Hazen Carpenter, Madison; and Harvey E. Elmer, Randal J. Elmer, Luther W. Lemon, and Roswell S. Richards, all of Monticello.