Roland William Sarbacher Youth Strangled By Rope in Barn Sarbacher Rites On Wednesday

A 13-year-old Jordan Township youth, Roland William Sarbacher, accidentally hanged himself last night while coming down from a hay mow after feeding sheep.

The tragic mishap occurred on a farm operated by the youth's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sarbacher, about 10 miles northwest of Monroe.

Wilbur E Deininger, county coroner ruled the death accidental and said no inquest will be held.

The youth was pronounced dead after mouth-to-mouth respiration attempts failed. Deininger, Howe, the youth's father and the family's pastor, Rev. Burton Holling, all used the respiration method in hopes of reviving the boy.

A brother, Harland, 9, found Roland hanging from the rope at the end of the overhead track in the barn and at first believed he was only pretending. When he did not answer the boy's questions, however, Harland notified his father.

The family called Rev. Holling who informed the sheriff's department.

Howe said the youth had been throwing down hay from the loft to feed the sheep and then came hand over hand down the overhead track. He reportedly had done the hand-over-hand routine several times in the past, but this time he apparently lost his grip or leaped when he reached the end of the track and became entangled in a livestock rope which was hanging from a rafter in the barn, Howe said.

Roland Earl, son of Earl W. and Helen L. Miller Sarbacher, was born May 4, 1945 at Monroe. He was an eighth grader in the Jordan Center school. Roland was a member of Browntown Boy Scout Troop 109 and of the Jordan Jolly Workers 4-H Club. He attended Bethel EUB Sunday school in Monroe.

Surviving are his parents; a brother, Harland; two sisters, Wanda and Yvonne, all at home; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Miller, Ft. Atkinson, and the paternal grandparents, William J. Sarbacher, Jordan Township, and Mrs. Irene Hart.

Services will be at 1:30 pm. Wednesday in the Bethel church with his pastor, Rev. Burton L. Holling officiating. Burial will be in Highland cemetery at Monticello. Friends may call at the Voegeli funeral home in Monticello after 2 pm. tomorrow.

Members of his Boy Scout troop will be active and honorary pallbearers.

