

## **Carl Stauffer**

**June 5, 1918 - July 16, 1958**

### **Carl Stauffer, 40, Killed at Railroad Crossing Here July 16th**

Carl Stauffer, 40, who lived on the Old Mill property, on the Westport road, was killed Wednesday of last week on the C. & N. W. Railroad crossing below the Canning Corp.

Stauffer was driving a tractor from Waunakee when he was hit by the fast passenger train about 5:00 p. m.

It was nearly a year ago—on July 27, 1957—that another Waunakee farmer, Christ N. Ripp, was killed at the same crossing by the same train at approximately the same time of the day,

This is one of the reasons Coroner Michael Malloy planned an inquest. “Whens two people are killed under the same conditions at the same place within a year, something’s wrong,” Malloy said.

Malloy said Stauffer’s view of the coming train was obstructed by a 40-car freight train which was on a siding waiting for the passenger train to pass.

The coroner reported that the crossing is marked only by stationary cross-arm signs. It is on a knoll with unobstructed vision to highway drivers unless there is a train on the siding.

Jerome Ripp, son of last year’s victim, was cutting weeds some 200 feet behind Stauffer’s tractor when the accident occurred. His brother, Leon Ripp, was about 300 feet across the tracks cultivating a corn field,

The Ripp brothers and other witnesses estimated the speed of the Madison-bound passenger train at about 90 miles per hour, The train stopped about a mile down the track after the crash, Malloy reported.

Charles Leigh, Baraboo, was the train’s engineer, and Martin Douglas, Adams, was the conductor.

Stauffer was born June 5, 1918, in Freeport, Ill., but lived most of his life in the Monticello area. For the past five years he had lived in the Waunakee area.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Waunakee, and presided as an elder for the last three years,

Stauffer was a veteran of World War II in the Air Force and served the past 12 years in the Reserve. He was discharged Jan. 24 of this year with the rank of captain.

Survivors include his wife, the former Ruth Schulz, of Monticello; two children, Patsy, 12, and Carl Jr., 7; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stauffer, Monticello, and a brother, Calvin, in California.

Funeral services, under the direction of the Schwab funeral home, were held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday in the First Presbyterian Church, Waunakee, with the Rev. Herbert Bryce, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Highland Cemetery, Monticello.

The American Legion Post 360, Waunakee, and Amstutz-Marty American Legion Post 256, Monticello, conducted military rites at the grave and funeral.

Pallbearers were Dave Rockwell, Andy Kessenich, John Klingelhofer, Ernest Williamson, Melvin Donner and Arden Hagen.