

John Elmer

June 15, 1845 - 1920

Well Known Dutch Hollow Resident Answers Final Summons

Death claimed another of Green county's pioneers shortly before 11 o'clock on Friday night of last week, when John Elmer, well known resident of Dutch Hollow, answered the final summons. He had been in failing health since his illness with influenza last fall, but it was not until a comparatively short time ago that his condition became serious. Cancer of the lungs is given as the cause of his death.

Mr. Elmer was born in the Canton of Glarus, Switzerland, on June 15, 1845. His parents, John U. and Verena Elmer, emigrated to America four years later and came direct to Wisconsin, first settling in Washington township. Six years later the family moved to Mt. Pleasant township and subsequently to the town of Sylvester, where the subject of this sketch continued to reside up to the time of his death. For many years he was actively engaged in farming and was numbered among the most successful agriculturists of Sylvester township. A few years ago, however, he disposed of all but a few acres of his farm and since then has led a life of comparative ease. His marriage to Anna Elmer, the widow who survives him, took place fifty years ago last December. Since coming to America in early childhood—a little over seventy years ago—Mr. Elmer had always lived within a few miles of Monticello. Although he was of a quiet and unassuming disposition he was well known in this section of the county and enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and esteem of his fellow men. He was always considerate of the rights of others and in matters of a business nature the Golden Rule was his guide. He was generous in his support of every worthy movement and for many years had been an active and influential member of the Dutch Hollow Evangelical church. His death removes from the community one whose place will indeed be hard to fill.

Mr. Elmer was a Civil war veteran, having served with the 46th Wisconsin infantry for a period of nine months preceding the close of the war.

Besides the widow he is survived by four sons and one daughter, as follows: Matt Elmer, of Argyle; U. J. and J. P. Elmer, of Mt. Pleasant; M. C. Elmer, of Minneapolis, and Mrs. W. R. Shisler, of Lancaster, Ohio. He is also survived by three brothers, Jacob H. Elmer, Henry J. Elmer and J. U. Elmer, all of Monroe. Another brother, Adam Elmer, died a few months ago.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Dutch Hollow church, the Rev. C. A. Bloede officiating. Interment was in the Dutch Hollow cemetery. A number from this vicinity were in attendance at the last sad rites.