

David Klassy
Oct. 2, 1859 – May 1938

David Klassy, Well Known Monticello Merchant, Expires
Final Rites Conducted for Prominent Monticello Business Man

Funeral services for David Klassy, 78 years of age, whose colorful career came to an ending at 11:15 Thursday morning in his home on Monroe street, were conducted at 1:30 P. M. Sunday in his home and at 2 in the Reformed church.

Rev. A. Muehlmeier, pastor of the Reformed church, and Rev. W. G. Schulz, pastor of the Evangelical church, officiated. Interment was in Highland cemetery. Pallbearers were: C. M. Stauffer, John Keefe, S. W. Grenzow, C. F. Jordan, Adolph Kistler and R. W. Ogden.

Oldest Merchant

The passing of Mr. Klassy from the business directory of Monticello erases the name of the oldest active business man in the village. He had been actively interested in the business circles of the village for 51 years.

Mr. Klassy first became ill several months ago and his condition became gradually poorer. He continued to come down town to conduct his business for a short while after the inception of his illness. He had not been able to be up and around for quite some time, however, and shortly before noon Thursday he passed away from the incurable illness with which he became afflicted.

Colorful Career

Mr. Klassy's career was one of a most varied and colorful nature, having conducted several businesses in Monticello during his 51 years in the village. He was born Oct. 2, 1859, in Canton Glarus, Switzerland. At an early age he suffered the loss of his father. When six years of age he accompanied his mother to America. He recalled that it required 59 days for them to cross the Atlantic ocean aboard a sailboat. He stated that they would make considerable progress at certain stages, only to be forced back later by the changing wind.

Settled in Washington

They came directly to Green county and settled in Washington township where Mr. Klassy attended school in the Casper Marty district. In those days of hardship young David found it necessary to earn his own living, which he began doing at the age of nine years. In 1884 he was married to Anne Zweifel, the ceremony taking place in Albany. To this union was born four daughters, one of whom died in early infancy. Mr. Klassy's career in Monticello was of a varied nature. At the age of 15 years he began to learn the cobbler's trade under the direction of the late Fred Zwickey. He carried on his work in many locations in the village, having hung out his shingle in the building now owned by James Lobs, in the J. E. Blum building, in the basement and second floor of the Peoples Supply store, where L. R. Pease is located, in the building where the Bank of Monticello is now located, in the Chas. Youngreen establishment, and several other locations. He did not follow the cobbler's trade altogether, however. During this time he embarked in the restaurant business several times. At the time of his death he operated a grocery store.

Mr. Klassy also followed the occupation of farming, having for some time owned and operated a farm southwest of the village, now owned by Ernest Gempeler.

List of Survivors

His only surviving daughter, Anne Babler, made her home with Mr. Klassy for 51 years. Mrs. Klassy passed away June 17, 1899.

The death of Mr. Klassy brings sincere regret among a great number of friends and acquaintances that he made during his many years of square business dealings, He had an unusually keen sense of humor and was well qualified in the art of story telling.

He leaves to mourn his death his daughter and three grandchildren. Three daughters preceded him in death.