



# Madison County Genealogical Society



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## **Mrs. Fred Volk Dies at Plainview Home**

Mrs. Fred Volk, former Madison county woman, died Monday at her home near Plainview, Nebr., following an illness of several months. Mrs. Volk, formerly Miss Christie Bartee of Battle Creek, moved to the Plainview neighborhood as a bride a year ago last July.

She leaves her husband, five month old baby boy, her aged father and several brothers and sisters. Funeral services were held at the Plainview Methodist church Wednesday. The remains were taken to Battle Creek for burial.

Source: Madison Star-Mail, Thursday, March 5, 1931, page 1.

## **Mrs. Jane Wagner**

Another one of Madison county's pioneer citizens has passed to the great beyond, Grandma Wagner.

Jane Norris was born in Jackson, Penn., May 29, 1844. On August 17, 1862 she was united in marriage to Rensellaer Wagner, who left soon after with his regiment for service in the Civil war. The Wagners moved to Madison in 1880.

Three children were born to this union, Charles Wagner of California, Kate Jane Donovan, deceased, and Mrs. Cora Nichols of this city.

"Pap" Wagner preceded his wife to the grave, dying after a lingering illness on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1919. After his death the decline of Grandma Wagner, who was his constant nurse, was rapid. Jane Wagner was 75 years, 11 months and 21 days of age. She was a true Christian woman, not the kind that sounds a trumpet when they do a kind act, but in the quiet of her home life and among her friends she was always the same, and everywhere she manifested the Christian spirit. Her kindly qualities of heart endeared her to all that enjoyed the pleasure of her acquaintance. However consoling and sustaining are the tender sympathies and loving ministrations of friends, yet the real healing and uplifting comfort is the Divine.

The funeral services were held at the home last Saturday afternoon, Rev. A. H. Eggleston officiating. Interment was made in Crown Hill cemetery. Source: Madison Star-Mail, Friday, May 28, 1920, page 7.

## **CALVIN WALTERS DIES**

Victim of a Fatal Disease. He Succumbs After a Short Illness.

CALVIN WALTERS died Tuesday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Walters, northwest of Battle Creek, after a short illness.

Funeral services were held this (Thursday) afternoon at the Methodist church, Pastor R. J. Callow officiating.

The death of this young man was sudden, though unexpected. About four months ago what was supposed to be a slight ailment was diagnosed as a case of diabetes. The inevitable followed, despite efforts of the best

physicians to check the disease. Energetic to the last, Calvin insisted upon lending a helping hand about the farm, and it is doubtful if he realized his condition until a few hours before the end. He was about nineteen years of age. BATTLE CREEK ENTERPRISE May 14, 1908 page 1

### **Mrs. Henry Walters**

Tilden Citizen: Mrs. Henry Walters, mother of William and Arthur Walters of Tilden, died at the home of her daughter near Norfolk on Saturday. Funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Battle Creek Monday afternoon conducted by Rev. R. S. Kauffroath of the Morning Star U. B. church. Interment was made in the Union cemetery at Battle Creek.

Elsie Peters was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on December 17, 1864, and passed away September 14, 1935, at the age of 70 years, eight months and 27 days. She came to America when 16 years of age, locating in Clinton, Iowa. In December, 1884, she was united in marriage to Henry Walters. To this union nine children were born, six son and three daughters, all of whom are living except on son, Ben, who died in 1929.

She was baptized when a small child and later was confirmed in the Lutheran faith. She has been in failing health for the past year but never complained of her ailments. She was a good wife and mother and delighted in her home.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, Henry Walters of Fremont, five sons, William and Arthur of Tilden; Herman of Elgin; Richard of Norfolk; Oscar of Fremont; three daughters: Mrs. Emma Rowland and Miss Minnie Walters of Norfolk, and Mrs. Bertha Rood of Fremont. Source: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, September 19, 1935, page 1.

### **MARTIN WALTERS, 83, DIES**

Martin Walters, who came to Nebraska in 1882 and homesteaded the farm northwest of Battle Creek where he has lived for fifty years, died Thursday morning, March 17. Mrs. Walters was 83 years old and a native of France. He is survived by his widow, one son and four daughters. Funeral notice and obituary will follow. (But no further notice could be found). BATTLE CREEK ENTERPRISE March 17, 1932 page 1

### **Refrigerator Fell on Him**

Theodore Warnsted may die as the result of falling from a wagon with a heavy refrigerator on top of him, breaking his collar bone, in the alley in the rear of the Friday hardware store, this morning.

Warnsted, who is a tinner in the employ of the Friday store, was hauling away a refrigerator when the horse was suddenly frightened and man and the refrigerator were jerked from the wagon to the ground. The heavy refrigerator lit on top of the man. Besides having his collar bone broken Warnsted sustained severe bruises over the ribs and internal injuries are feared.

Warnsted was removed to his home at 418 South Third street, where he lies in a critical condition. Source: The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal, Friday, March 18, 1910, page 5.

### **TINNER FALLS, BACK BROKEN**

#### **Theodore Warnstedt Steps Backward off a Roof**

#### **Dies as Result of Injuries**

## **With Spine, Four Ribs and Skull Fractured, a Norfolk Tinner in John Friday's Employ, Lives Only Over Night**

Theodore C. A. Warnstedt, 418 South Third street, a tinner employed at John Friday's hardware store, was fatally injured at 3o'clock yesterday afternoon as the result of stepping backward from the roof of Mrs. Fred Schelly's residence, 109 North Seventh street. He died this morning at 7:30.

The man's back was broken and four ribs and his skull were fractured.

Warnstedt was putting on new guttering around the roof of the two-story house at the time. His statement regarding the accident was made to Mr. and Mrs. John Friday. "I made a misstep and fell off," he said.

No one saw the accident, although about five men were working around the place at the time. His body was terribly mangled and the lower part of the trunk from the waist down was paralyzed. John Schelly, proprietor of the Schelly Bottling works, discovered the injured man and he was the first to call a physician.

Warnstedt suffered much pain. He leaves a wife and four children, the oldest being a boy 16 years of age.

### **Nails in His Body**

Four ribs were broken, many of them were torn loose and the spine was fractured. The lower part of the body was instantly paralyzed. The man's body was full of nails caused by his falling on shingles which were previously torn from the roof that was being reshingled. Warnstedt fell in a sitting position, which was the cause of his spine breaking so badly.

Warnstedt was putting on a new guttering on the Schelly house and by his side was working Ed Schelly, who believed Warnstedt had just walked around the roof of the house. Schelly's first intimation that anything had happened came to him by the cries of his older brother John Schelly, who a few moments after Warnstedt's fall came up to the house. He saw Warnstedt sitting among the old shingles and inquired what was wrong. Warnstedt could not speak and Schelly, thinking only a minor accident had occurred, telephoned for Dr. Verges, who took Warnstedt's symptoms to be a fractured skull. On closer examination he found several ribs broken and in assisting Warnstedt to his feet discovered the spine was also broken. He said that Warnstedt would live but about six hours. Dr. Tashjean, city physician, also examined the injuries and declared there was little hope for his recovery. He recommended that the injured man be moved to this home at once. Mrs. Friday preceded the ambulance to the home. She was met by Mrs. Warnstedt, who is a very small and frail woman.

"I knew you would come," she said. "The doctor telephoned to me that my husband was hurt. Are his injuries serious?" Mrs. Friday assured Mrs. Warnstedt that there might be hope, but her appeals to the little woman to be brave were hardly spoken when the ambulance arrived. One glance at her husband, and Mrs. Warnstedt was overcome by mental grief. She did not faint but remained silent for nearly an hour and the ghastly color in her face showed the terrible mental agony she was undergoing.

### **Is Told He Cannot Live**

Not long after his removal to his home Warnstedt requested that Mayor Friday should be sent for. The mayor came and the injured man, speaking in much pain, told his employer where certain tools could be found, and that everything was in its proper place.

Warnstedt asked Dr. Verges, during the physician's visit at the home, whether or not he would live. "Only a few hours, Teddy; you are badly injured," the doctor said. The injured man did not seem to mind this bad news and requested that his children, who were away visiting, should be sent for.

Warnstedt carried no life insurance, He has been employed as a tinner by Mayor Friday for some years. Last year a heavy ice box fell on him and he was laid up for several months. He complained of heart trouble to many of his friends and on one occasion, when in company with Mail Carrier Boehnke, he was attacked by this trouble.

Mr. Warnstedt was born in Germany on May 19, forty-seven years ago. No funeral arrangements have yet been made, but his sister living at Millard, Neb., near Omaha, arrived in the city with the Warnstedt children at noon. She will attend to the funeral arrangements. Warnstedt is a member of the St. Johannes Lutheran church.

Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Tuesday, July 18, 1911, page 5.

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Although the funeral arrangements over the remains of Theodore Warnstedt, who lost his life as the result of falling from the residence of Mrs. F. Schelly on North Ninth street are not complete, the services will be held in all probability at 2:30 Thursday afternoon from the family home and at 3 o'clock from the St Johannes Lutheran church. Warnstedt's sister, living at Millard, Neb., arrived yesterday in company with the two Warnstedt children. Friends of Warnstedt were out among the business men Wednesday with a subscription list which was liberally signed. This money will go toward the defraying of the funeral expenses, the family being in poor circumstances. Mrs. Warnstedt is now reported ill. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Wednesday, July 19, 1911, page 5.

Funeral services over the remains of Theodore Warnstedt, the tinner who met death in a fall from the two-story Schelly residence, took place Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the family home and at 2:30 from the St. Johannes church. Rev. Mr. Bergfelder had charge of the services. Interment was made in the new Lutheran cemetery.

Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Thursday, July 20, 1911, page 5.

#### **Card of Thanks**

To our friends, neighbors, the Ladies Aid society who were so kind in their sympathy and kindness, and to those who brought the beautiful floral offerings, we take this means of extending our most heartfelt thanks. Mrs. Theodore Warnstedt and Family.

Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Friday, July 21, 1911, page 6.

#### **Madison County Pioneer Resident Dies Here Friday**

Funeral services for Louis Weinberger, 84, Madison county pioneer, who passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. August Besk, Friday, Dec. 12th, were held from St. Leonard's church with burial made in the family lot in Crownhill Cemetery. He was born June 22, 1845 in Germany. He was united in marriage to Catherine Wanek at Madison, Wisconsin and came to Madison county, Nebraska in 1870 and took up a homestead in Green Garden precinct.

Excerpts from Madison Star—Mail, Thursday, December 18, 1930 on page 1.

**Mrs. Conrad Werner** died Feb. 20. She lived in Madison county for 27 years having come here with her husband from Philadelphia. She was 63 years old. She leaves an aged husband, five sons and two daughters. The oldest daughter, Mrs. Fred Eyl, died several years ago. Source: The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal, Friday Feb. 24, 1905 on page 7.

**Julius Whittenburg**, living about eight miles east of Norfolk, died last Saturday morning from a cancer in his stomach. Funeral services were held at his residence Sunday by Rev. Mr. Pankow, and his remains placed in the German Lutheran burying grounds east of town. Mr. W. was a man about 40 years of age, and was held in high esteem by his neighbors and acquaintances. Source: Norfolk Journal, Friday June 29, 1883, page 3.

### **Note from Clyde Williams**

Young Man wrote, "I'm leaving in a Hurry, " Just Before Death

I am leaving in a hurry. That is a joke.----Clyde Williams"

This was the strangely coincidental note on a postal card which came to a Norfolk friend yesterday from Clyde Williams, the Norfolk young man who was killed under a train at Cheyenne, Wyo., and who wrote this postal and mailed it evidently only a short time before he was run over.

Another note was received by the dead boy's mother. This note was written after he had been hurt, and while he was being taken to a hospital. He succumbed enroute to the hospital and, it is said, begged those about him to end his suffering by taking his life.

The remains arrived last night for burial tomorrow afternoon. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Sat. August 25, 1906, page 8

### **How Clyde Williams Died**

First Information Giving Details, is Brought Here.

Fell From Top of a Box Car.

Walking Along the Top of the Train, From Caboose to Engine, a Sudden Sharp Curve Made Him Lose Balance---H. L. Doughty Investigated.

Accurate and definite details of the death of Clyde Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Williams of Norfolk, who was killed under a train near Cheyenne some days ago, were brought to the parents here today for the first time by H. L. Doughty, deputy for the Highland Noble order, who has just returned from Cheyenne, where he went for the purpose of investigating the death in connection with insurance held by the deceased in his company.

Clyde was in the employ of the Union Pacific railroad company at the time of his death, as he had been for some time previous. He, with two companions, left Cheyenne on a night freight train bound for Laramie, as they were due to go to work at Laramie the next morning. They started out by riding in the caboose.

Clyde was acquainted with the fireman in the engine which drew the train and , and shortly after leaving Cheyenne, he started to walk from the caboose to the engine, over the tops of the cars, in order to ride with the fireman.

### **Thrown Off at a Sharp Curve**

There is a very sharp curve in the track about two miles west of Cheyenne and it was at this point that the young man, losing his balance when the train swerved suddenly, fell down between two

cars and was run over by the wheels. The lower part of his abdomen was cut wide open and his left leg was crushed. The accident occurred at about 2 o'clock in the morning and he lived until 6:15, when he died in a Cheyenne hospital.

He was immediately taken back to Cheyenne and, while in the baggage room, wrote a note to his mother and father, telling them of his approaching death. This note was handed by the dying boy to the baggage men but the latter failed to mail it as he had promised and the message only reached the Norfolk home a few days ago.

### **\$65 in Money is Missing**

Clyde told the physician who attended him that he had \$65 in his sock, but no trace of the money has been found.

Railroad men at Cheyenne say that the curve which threw Clyde from the train, will kill any man who is not well acquainted with the route.

Clyde's companions and the railroad men under whom he worked all vouch for him as an industrious, sober, ambitious young man living a clean life, and the death was a severe shock to those who knew him.

Facts regarding the death were difficult to get from the railroad company and the information was only obtained by Mr. Doughty after hard work. Source: The Norfolk Daily News, Sat. September 8, 1906, page 8.

### **Carl Winter, Norfolk Pioneer Dead**

Carl Winter was one of the Wisconsin Colony to come to Norfolk in 1867. Mr. Winter was 85 years old and a native of Germany. He died Tuesday at the home of his daughter in Stanton. He came to America in 1865 and after a residence of two years in Wisconsin joined the colonists who took homesteads at Norfolk, Nebraska. Until the death of the aged wife, which occurred in January, this year, Mr. and Mrs. Winter were the only surviving couple of this band of sturdy pioneers. Excerpts from: Battle Creek Enterprise, Thursday, June 10, 1920, page 1.

### **Former Resident Dies in Omaha**

Harry Arthur Yount, former resident here, died at his home in Omaha and the remains were brought here for burial Sept. 4. He is a cousin of Philip Sheets. His parents and two brothers are also buried at the Deer Creek cemetery.

Harry Arthur Yount was born August 17, 1886, the son of William and Alice Yount. He passed away in Omaha on August 30 at the age of 61 years and 13 days. The funeral services were held at Plainview. Source: excerpt from Meadow Grove News, Thursday, September 18, 1947, page 1.