

Mead

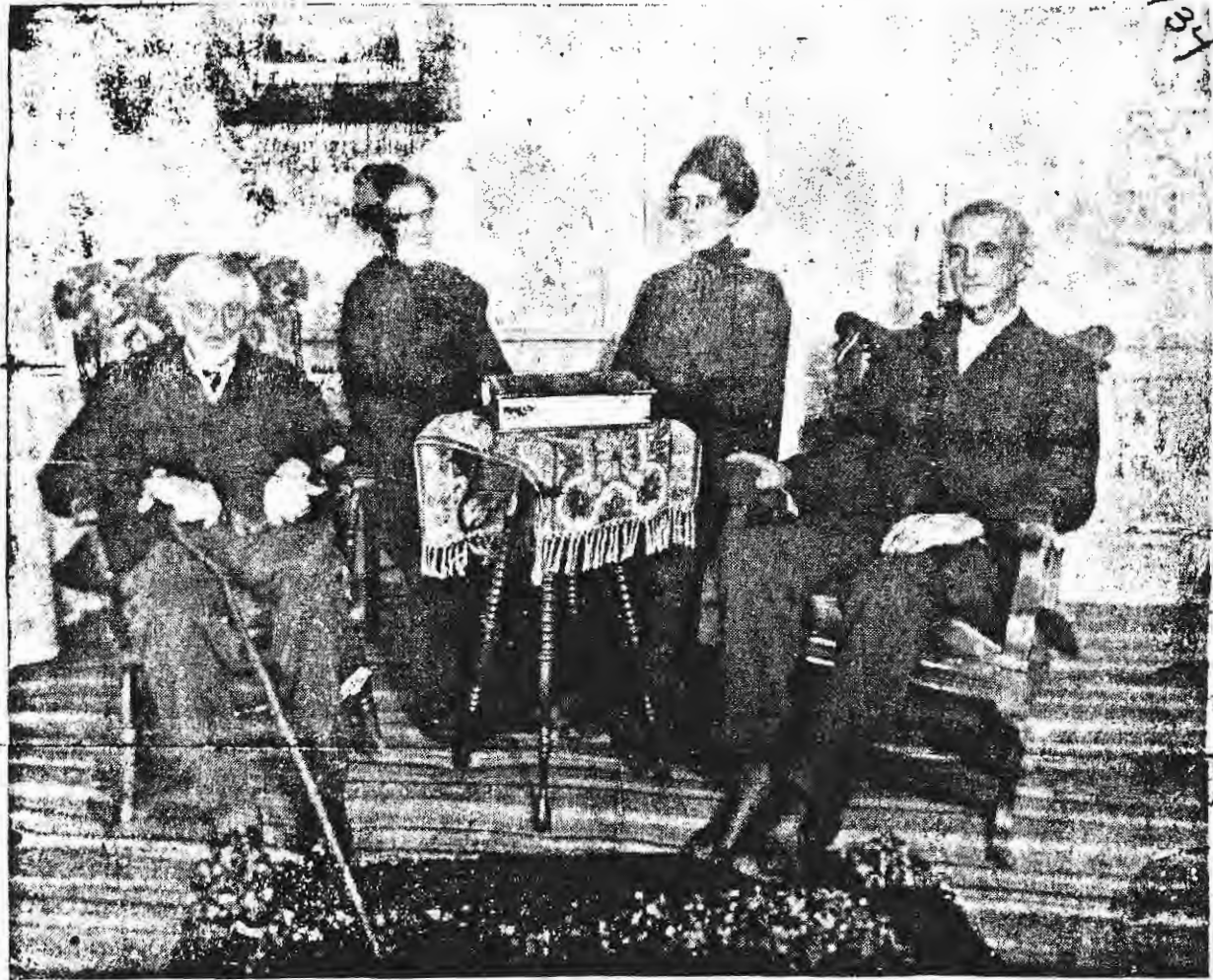


Pfc. VIRGIL L. MEAD, son of Mrs. Lyman Cobb of Lansing, was inducted into the Army in February, 1942. He formerly resided on Dewitt Route 2. Pfc. Mead received his training at Camp Santa Anita, Calif., but is now serving overseas with an Ordnance division.

Merchant

An old resident of Northwest, Mo., died February 19, 1897. William Merchant, aged 88 years. The funeral was conducted under the Masonic rite at the Bengal and Riley Baptist church on Sunday afternoon. Rev. E. M. Blanchard officiating. All that belongs to this earth of that old and honored pioneer rests in the Bengal and Riley cemetery.

## FOUR GENERATIONS.



John William Merrihew

Mrs. Amelia Winans

Lucy Winans

John Merrihew

The above picture, which was taken especially for The Views by O. G. Plunkett, Photographer, on Sunday, the one hundredth birthday of Mr. Merrihew, shows Mr. Merrihew, his son, his grand daughter and his great grand daughter.

Merrihew

JOHN W. MERRIBEW OF OLIVE 100  
YEARS OLD SUNDAY

## A BRIGHT OLD PATRIARCH

HAS RESIDED IN CLINTON COUNTY  
SINCE 1837.

His Twelve Guests Sunday Wished Him  
Many Happy Returns of the  
Day.

"All is well; I promised my mother I would meet her in heaven, and I have always tried to live a life which will grant me this blessed privilege."

These words dropped from the lips of John William Merrihew at his home in Olive township Sunday afternoon last as the old gentleman sat chatting pleasantly with a representative of THE NEWS.

It was a great day for Mr. Merrihew; he was experiencing what few human beings are ever permitted to enjoy the celebration of his one hundredth birthday.

Way back in 1802 on the nineteenth day of January a babe was born in a humble farm home in Olive, Ulster county, New York. As the proud parents gazed at the tiny being intrusted to their care they little dreamed that a hundred years should be entered to the credit of their child, and could they have foreseen this remarkable existence it needs must have added to the weight of responsibility which they felt was theirs.

Later in life as the mother closed her eyes in the last great sleep, clinging fondly to the hand of her boy and asking him to join her on the other shore, could she have gazed into the future for two score years or more there would have been no doubt in her mind of the reunion she prayed for.

Gentle patience and Christian fortitude have characterized the life of John Merrihew and he reaches the one hundredth meridian in life's pathway surrounded by loving relatives honored and respected by his friends and happy in the thought that he has so lived that when the final summons comes he can join the legions whose memories have meant so much to him during all these years of patient waiting.

Mr. Merrihew came to Michigan with his family in 1830. After spending a few months in the village of Detroit the family drove through to Clinton county, and settled in the township which they afterwards named Olive after the old home. They lived within eighteen miles of the Hudson river and took a steamboat from that point to Albany where they continued on to Buffalo by way of the canal. They crossed Lake Erie and landed in Detroit which was a wild frontier town. Several other families came to Michigan at the same time.

Mr. Merrihew came from good sturdy stock. His parents were farmers and his grandmother on his mother's side lived to be 103 years old. Mr. Merrihew is the father of three children, John M., William J. and Peter M. The former mentioned are alive, both being very old men. Peter died at the age of twenty-one. Mr. Merrihew took up 800 acres of land from the government which he cleared away from forest into fertile fields.

There was no demonstration in commemoration of his remarkable birthday last Sunday, but a dinner was served to twelve. Both sons were present. Mr. Merrihew still maintains a remarkable interest in things which are transpiring. He likes to be read to which is a rather difficult task however as he is very deaf. He asks every day after the markets, and knows just what is going to be raised on every foot of land on the eighty acres where he now lives.

When he feels well he loves to talk of the old days and his memory is clear and bright on events which transpired sixty and eighty years ago. He is up and around the house every day and requires but little assistance in caring for himself.

One winter about five years ago Mr. Merrihew insisted on having some of the shocks of corn hauled to the barn and there he husked over three hundred bushels. He has since that time succeeded in doing some light work but the past year or two has turned the farm work over to those younger and more robust. Mr. Merrihew lives with Mr. and Mrs. Teed. Mrs. Teed is a granddaughter of the centenarian and it is a very happy family.

Mr. Merrihew assured THE NEWS representative that he never expected to live to be a hundred years old. Later years when reference would be made to his age and the suggestion would be offered that they would have a big celebration when

"Uncle Bud" reached his hundredth birthday the venerable old man would frown and insist that it was useless to plan on any such event as he would surely disappoint them. But the cycle of years has rolled around and finds this patriarch happy and as the insurance men would say with still some "expectancy." Mr. Merrihew sent a nice message to the Epworth League.

Merrihew

Merrihew

## CLINTON CO. PIONEER

JOHN M. MERRIHEW DIED AT HIS  
HOME IN OLIVE TOWNSHIP,  
MAY 1.

Had Lived on Same Farm For 78  
Years— Was 86 Years  
Of Age.

John Myers Merrihew, a resident of Olive township since 1836, died Friday, May 1, after a 10 days' illness. He was 86 years old.

Born in Ulster county, New York, Mr. Merrihew came with his parents to Clinton county when eight years old. The family was one of the first to settle in that township. In 1851 Mr. Merrihew married Miss Lucy Gillette of the same township and to them were born seven children, of whom three are living. Mrs. Merrihew died in 1863 and Mr. Merrihew was married a second time, his wife being Miss Sarah Vincent, who died 13 years ago. Three children were born to them, of whom only one is living.

For many years Mr. Merrihew was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Olive and of the Clinton County Pioneer society.

The children who survive Mr. Merrihew are Mrs. Edward Winans of Detroit, Mrs. Samuel B. Warren of St. Johns, J. Frank Merrihew of Olive, and Mrs. Perry Teed, who lives on the old homestead. He also leaves one brother, William Jerden Merrihew of Flint, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were held at 2 o'clock Sunday at the house, Rev. Fisher of Dewitt, pastor of the Olive Methodist church, officiating.

Merrihew

Mrs. Jordan Merrihew died at her home in Olive, Wednesday evening, December 15, 1897. Almira Hollister was born in New York state in 1833. In 1836 she moved with her parents to Michigan and in 1854 she was united in marriage to Jordan Merrihew. Six children were born to them, three girls and three boys. Two girls and one boy have been taken from them. The surviving children are Mrs. Alice Owen of Maple Rapids, Elmer of Isabella county, and Veron who reside on the old homestead. Mrs. Merrihew was a member of the M. E. church where she will be greatly missed. She was respected by all. Besides her husband and children she leaves a brother and sister to mourn her loss. She has been a great sufferer for many years but always seemed cheerful. The funeral was held Friday at the North Olive church and interment in the North Olive cemetery.

Merrihew

Married at the Methodist parsonage at Angola, Indiana, Friday, Oct. 18, Miss Ethel Merrihew and Earl Pennington, both of St. Johns. The full ring service was read. Mr. and Mrs. Pennington will reside on the grocer's farm in Olive.

Miller

**Marries Former Husband's Brother.**

Laverne Miller and Mrs. Agnes Miller were married at high noon on Thanksgiving day at the home of the groom's uncle, D. W. Feazle, at 305 Emmons St. Mr. Miller is a brother of the bride's former husband. The bride and groom were unattended. Rev. J. T. Ewing officiated using the Episcopal wedding ceremony. Lohengrins wedding march was played by Bessie Feazle, a cousin of the groom.

The bride was tastily gowned in white silk with trimmings of chiffon and applique. The house decorations were of green and white.

Twenty-five relatives were present, it being a reunion of the Feazle family. In the evening the bride and groom drove to South Riley where they have furnished a home.

Lavern Miller, South Riley.....28  
Agnes M. Miller, same.....32

Miller

#### OBITUARY.

Arthur Miller, Who Died at South Riley,  
August 14.

Arthur Miller, whose death at South Riley August 14 appeared in a recent number of The News, was born in Riley May 22, 1872, making his age 32 years. He was married to Aggie Allen, Nov. 28, 1893. They lived in St. Johns for a short time where he was employed in the stable lactory then moved back to Riley on the Ben Miller farm, where they lived until about 3 years ago when they moved to the Kent farm where they lived until his death. He was sick such a short time with typhoid fever that his death was a surprise and shock to all. He was one of Riley's most esteemed young men. He was an active worker in the South Riley Grange having held several prominent offices. He was insured for \$1,000 in the Gleaners, of which order he became a charter member last winter, and holding the office of vice chief Gleaner. He was a man who made friends where ever he went with young and old. He was a loving son, kind husband, and faithful friend. He leaves a wife, father, mother, two brothers and many friends. The funeral was held at his late home in South Riley, Sunday, August 17. The remains were interred in South Riley cemetery under the order of the Gleaners.

LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION  
FILE  
BOX

Miller

*Mr. and Mrs. Ward Miller  
will celebrate their  
Golden Wedding Anniversary  
on  
Sunday afternoon, November 24, 1957  
at an  
Open House 2:00 to 5:30  
De Witt Memorial Building  
De Witt, Michigan*

Miller

*Mr. and Mrs. George W. Miller  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of their daughter  
Dolores Irene*

*to*

*Mr. Sanford George Mitchell, Jr.  
on Friday, the eleventh of October  
nineteen hundred and seventy-four  
at five-thirty in the afternoon  
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church  
East Lansing, Michigan*

LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION  
BOX FILE

Miller

Johns, Michigan—February 16

## Miller-Kowalk Vows Exchanged

DeWitt—Mr. and Mrs. Blake Miller announce the marriage of their daughter, Joan, to Vernon Kowalk on Saturday, Feb. 4, at 5:30 p. m. at the home of the Rev. J. Oliver Hall of East Lansing.

They were attended by Albert Schulz and Janet Lankford. Mr. Kowalk is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kowalk of South DeWitt. The young couple will make their home in an apartment on the Locher farm in Olive.

*Married*



**MRS. VERNON A. KOWALK**

Mr. and Mrs. Blake Miller of DeWitt announce the marriage of their daughter, Joan, to Vernon A. Kowalk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert R. Kowalk, R. 4, Lansing, Feb. 4 in the home of Rev. J. Oliver Hall, East Lansing. Miss Janet Lankford and Albert Schulz attended the bride and groom.

# Dorothy Miller, fire victim

12-25-86

Miller

## Lansing State Journal

Dorothy Miller, 84, of DeWitt died Wednesday at Sparrow Hospital from burns suffered Monday in a fire that swept her townhouse in a complex on North Scott Street.

Her husband, Blake, 97, Michigan State's first football All-American in 1915, also was injured. He remained in critical condition in the hospital's burn unit Wednesday night.

Five neighboring families in the complex had to be evacuated after the blaze broke out in the Miller unit.

The DeWitt Fire Department and the state fire marshal are investigating the cause, said DeWitt Fire Chief Doug Twiss.

Dorothy Miller retired as a state librarian in 1972. She also was a former employee of the DeWitt Library.

In addition to her husband, survivors include a daughter, Joan Kowalk of DeWitt, and two sons, John of DeWitt and James of Haslett.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel, with burial in Deepdale Memorial Park.

## Deaths and Funerals

### MILLER, DOROTHY

1496 Dill Road

DeWitt

Age 84, died December 24, 1986. Mrs. Miller was born September 5, 1902 in Ironwood, MI and was a former librarian at the DeWitt Library. She retired from the State of Michigan as a Librarian in 1972. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Jayne Thill and is survived by her husband, Blake; 1 daughter, Mrs. Vernon (Joan) Kowalk of DeWitt; 2 sons, John Miller of DeWitt and James L. Miller of Haslett; 15 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Saturday at 1:00 p.m. at the Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel with the Rev. Carol A. Spangenberg, Deacon of St. Pauls Episcopal Church, officiating. Interment will be in Deepdale Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at the Funeral Home Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. There will be no visitation Christmas Day. Friends desiring may

make contributions to the DeWitt City Library.

Miller

## Obituaries 1-10-87

### Blake Miller, 97, fire victim

Lansing State Journal

Blake Miller, one of Michigan State University's first football stars in 1915, died Friday from injuries suffered during a fire at his home last month that also killed his wife.

Miller, 97, died in Sparrow Hospital of injuries sustained Dec. 22 in the fire at his DeWitt townhouse.



1915 File Photo

Named to the university's **Miller** all-time oldtimer's football team in 1969, Miller was one of only eight Spartan athletes in the school's history to win nine varsity letters.

The Tonawanda, N.Y. native went on to become golf pro at the Lansing Country Club, playing golf until age 87.

An end, Miller graduated in 1916 from what then was called Michigan Agricultural College.

He and teammate Jerry DaPrato are considered the university's first football All-Americans, after being given that distinction by the Atlanta Constitution, said Nick Vista, MSU sports information director.

Miller's wife, Dorothy, 84, died Christmas Eve at Sparrow Hospital.

Firefighters discovered the elderly couple in the smoke-filled, one-story unit in the North Scott Villa complex.

Fire marshals are still investigating and have not determined the cause of the blaze, said Assistant DeWitt Fire Chief Lloyd Ballard.

Survivors include a daughter, Joan Kowalk of DeWitt, and two sons, John of DeWitt and James of Haslett.

Arrangements are by Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel.

**CUNNINGHAM, HUBERT L. (BILL)**, 71, of 701 Pearl St., Charlotte, died Thursday. Services 1 p.m. Monday at by Burkhead-Green Funeral Home, Charlotte.

**JUDD, HOMER J.**, 91, of 425 N. Main St., Olivet, former Olivet mayor and owner of Olivet Machine Tool Engineering Co., died Friday. Services noon Sunday at Burkhead Funeral Home, Olivet.

**McMICHAEL, MARJORIE FENBY**, 59, of Houghton Lake, formerly of St. Johns, Federal Mogul employee, died Thursday. Services 11 a.m. Monday at Osgood Funeral Home, St. Johns.

**MANTHEI, ERWIN F.**, 89, died Friday. Services 2 p.m. Sunday at Patience-Montgomery-Luecht Funeral Home, Leslie.

**STANTON, BERNARD A.**, 52, of Lansing, died Thursday as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Muskegon County. Services 1 p.m. Monday at Palmer-Bush Funeral Home.



**MILLER, BLAKE**

1400 Dill Rd.

DeWitt

Age 97, died January 9, 1987. Born May 3, 1889 in Tonawanda, NY. Mr. Miller was honored as the first All-American football player at M.S.U. and was a professional golfer at the Country Club of Lansing. He was a veteran of World War I. Predeceased by his wife, Dorothy; daughter, Jayne Thill; and brother, Hewitt. Mr. Miller is survived by 1 daughter, Mrs. Vernon (Joan) Kowalk of DeWitt; 2 sons, John Miller of DeWitt and James L. Miller of Haslett; 15 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; 1 sister, Mrs. Virginia Cramer of California. Funeral services will be held Monday, 1:00 p.m. at the Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel with the Rev. Frederick C. Nose, Pastor of DeWitt Community Church officiating. Interment will be in Deepdale Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at the Funeral Home Sunday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Those desiring may make contributions to the DeWitt Fire Department.

For

Miller

6A-DeWitt-Bath Review/January 19, 1987

## Obituaries

### Blake Miller

Blake Miller, 97, of 1400 Dill Road, DeWitt, died Jan. 9, 1987.

Mr. Miller was born May 3, 1889, in Tonawanda, N.Y. He was honored as the first All-American football player at Michigan State University, and was a professional golfer at the Country Club of Lansing. He was a veteran of World War I.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy; a daughter, Jayne Thill; and a brother, Hewitt.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Vernon (Joan) Kowalk of DeWitt; two sons, John Miller of DeWitt and James Miller of Haslett; 15 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mrs. Virginia Cramer of California.

Services were held Jan. 12 at the Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel with the Rev. Frederick C. Nose, pastor of DeWitt Community Church officiating. Interment was in the Deepdale Memorial Park.

Contributions may be made to the DeWitt Fire Department.

### Elizabeth Richmond

Elizabeth Richmond, 83, of DeWitt, died Jan. 11, 1987.

Mrs. Richmond was born May 18, 1903, in Ovid. She was a member of the Royal Neighbors, the Blue Star Mothers, DeWitt Community Church and the Naomi Circle, and the Ladies Auxillary of the DeWitt Fire Department.

Surviving are her husband of 65 years, Frank; two daughters and sons-in-law, Elaine and Fred Olson of Chippewa Lake and Shirley and Richard Dague of Lansing; three sons and daughters-in-law, Robert and Ethel Richmond of DeWitt, Larry and Sharon Richmond of Morrice, and David and Paula Richmond of Lansing; 12 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; one brother, Richard Keck of DeWitt; and two sisters, Lois Brinkerhoff of Clare and Jean Sandow of Farwell.

Services were held Jan. 14 at the Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel with the Rev. Frederick C. Nose, pastor of the DeWitt Community Church officiating. Interment was in the DeWitt Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to the DeWitt Community Church.

Active casket bearers were Jim Richmond, Mark Olson, Kevin Richmond, Fitch Rose, Angel Salazar, and Tim Currin. Honorary casket bearers were Jim and Jack Brinkerhoff, Tony Salazar, Kirk Richmond, and Rick Keck.

Miller



The DeWitt Community church was the scene Saturday of the wedding of Miss Audrey Jean Lee and Joseph Leslie Miller.

MRS. JOSEPH LESLIE MILLER

## Miss Audrey Jean Lee, Joseph Leslie Miller Wed

DEWITT—A reception in the DeWitt Community church parlors followed the wedding of Miss Audrey Jean Lee and Joseph Leslie Miller.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Avery J. Lee of DeWitt. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Hilda Miller of Park Lake.

The former Miss Lee chose a cocktail length dress of peau de soie with a bell skirt and a lace bodice.

Miss Margery Lee was maid of honor. John Mackrie served as best man. Norman Waterman

and Loren Matteson seated the guests.

After the reception the couple left for a northern Michigan honeymoon. They will make their home in Lansing.

Miller

*Sherry Lynn Miller  
and  
Michael Emery Smalley  
pledge our love as one  
Saturday, the fourteenth of March  
nineteen hundred and eighty-one  
at five o'clock  
Redeemer United Methodist Church  
Scharey Road  
De Witt, Michigan*

*Reception immediately following  
Democratic Hall  
5024 South Cedar  
Lansing, Michigan*

Miller

*Jeannice Louise Moyer*  
and  
*Blake John Miller*  
together with their parents  
*Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Moyer*  
and  
*Mr. and Mrs. John H. Miller*  
invite you to share in the joy  
of the beginning of their new life together  
when they exchange marriage vows  
on Saturday, the nineteenth of August  
Nineteen hundred and seventy-eight  
at six o'clock in the evening  
Central Methodist Church  
Lansing, Michigan  
Buffet Reception following  
in the Cafeteria  
of St. Gerard Catholic Church

Miller

Mr. and Mrs. John Miller  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of their daughter

Kimberly Jo

to

Mr. James Michael Winkel  
Saturday, the twenty-ninth of April  
Nineteen hundred and seventy-eight  
at six o'clock in the evening  
The Peoples Church  
200 West Grand River  
East Lansing, Michigan

Buffet Reception  
immediately following ceremony  
U.A.W. Local 652 Hall  
426 Clare Street  
Lansing

*Leroy Miller Takes  
Geraldine Diehm As  
Bride April 12 Apr 1941*

A quiet wedding occurred at the home of Rev. Thomas Toy, in Lansing, when he united Miss Geraldine Diehm, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Diehm of Dewitt, and Leroy Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Miller, also of Dewitt. The single ring ceremony took place at 12 o'clock Saturday, April 12. They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Diehm, twin brother of the bride.

The bride was attired in a navy blue afternoon dress, complemented by a lovely corsage.

They will be at home to their many friends and relatives on a farm north of Dewitt.

Miller

Newspaper clipping-

Married at the home of the bride's parents in DeWitt Wednesday, Nov. 26 (1913), at 8 o'clock p.m. Rev. G. T. Fisher officiating, Miss Leah Wilcox, of DeWitt and Glenn Miller of Riley. The bride was tastefully attired in blue silk. The groom wore the conventional black. After the ceremony a luncheon was served. The happy couple are visiting friends in Lansing and Grand Ledge. Mr. and Mrs. Miller will make their future home on a farm in Riley. They have the best wishes of all their friends for their future happiness.

**MARRIED.**

Earl Miller and Miss Ruth Chant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Chant, of Riley, were married Tuesday afternoon, March 16, at the home of the bride's parents, in the presence of only the immediate relatives. The home was decorated in green and white and this color scheme was carried out in the tables and cakes. The couple was unattended. The bride's gown was white crepe de chine. On Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Miller gave a party for their friends at the Beach house at Merle Beach. They will make their home on a farm in Dewitt township.



**Earl Miller**

# Personality Profile

## He's guardian of the cemetery

By Sue Kiley White  
Editor

DeWitt City

At 84-years-old Earl Miller of DeWitt could be called a living history book.

As sexton of the city's cemetery, Miller has taken many through the recesses of time to find the missing links of their family tree. He knows those rolling tree-laden acres like he knows the back of his hand.

The spry elderly gentleman hasn't always been the cemetery's guardian. He has only been at this job since the age of 72.

"I've worked at two jobs all my life," he said as he scratched his head beneath the cap he was wearing. "It's never hurt anyone to work."

Earl is also a musician. He had a dance band for 30 years consisting of five to seven members. He played the violin and his group played all kinds of music, but especially they liked the square and round dance numbers.

"I play by note," he said. "I'm not one of those ear players."

During the war Miller worked at a packing plant and then later worked for the seed department for Farm Bureau Service.

"I really didn't ask for any of these jobs," indicated Miller.

Just recently he became assistant sexton so he can train Floyd Fowler as the new cemetery sexton. Earl says he had been telling the city council for about four years he needed help so he could teach someone else the ropes of the job.

"This job isn't as easy as it looks," he said. "You have

In addition to mowing, trimming around grave stones and shrubs, the sextons are responsible for supervising 35 burials a year. They also must cover the graves, plant seed and make sure monuments and markers are properly placed.

"And then you also have to contend with about 80 trees whose leaves fall between Oct. 1 and Nov. 1," he added with a smile.

The two most important things you have to watch for on this job is making sure you're accurate with your records and you're careful not to bury someone in the wrong place, Miller said.

Miller starts his work day at 7:30 a.m. breaking for lunch at 11:30, he heads over to his daughter Jean's DeWitt home for a hearty noonday meal. He is back at the cemetery precisely at noon and works till about 4 p.m.

"We don't take coffee breaks," he said earnestly. "You know about those coffee breaks."

Miller attributes his long healthful life to eating the right foods, working hard, and not "smoking, drinking or chewing." During his many years in DeWitt he was only in the hospital once and then it was only for six days.

"I don't eat a lot of meat," he said. "I eat a lot of fish and chicken and not much salt."

Earl still plays his violin, but not for money, he quickly added. He indicated he plays for "pretty near a half hour" everyday so he doesn't get rusty.

Miller has worked for himself since he was 17-years-old noting they really worked hard in those days.

"I was up at 4 a.m. in those days with the horses," he said with a twinkle in his eyes. "We did things the hard way in those days...that's why I can't sit around now."

Earl says putting your heart and soul into your job is important if you want to do it right. Having pride and taking an active interest in what you're doing also helps a person enjoy a job more, he said almost philosophically.

"I don't have one of those highfalutin educations," he commented. "I can't understand this new fangled math, all I know is I can add figures in my head faster than they can on paper."

A lot of times Earl's work wasn't done when he left the cemetery grounds. He took records home with him to help people with their family trees.

"That's quite a project, getting a family tree done," he said, "and a lot more people are doing it these days."

Earl and his wife, Ruth Marie, who passed away in 1957, had three children, Marjorie, Jean and LeRoy. He also has 16 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

"I courted my wife with a horse and buggy," he said remembering. "A little later I got a Model T...you've heard of them."

Earl doesn't watch much television, although he does play pool, occasionally.

"It's not for money though, and I'm no professional," he said.

The employees at the city offices gave Earl a surprise birthday party Monday to celebrate his long, fulfilled life.

"I'm going to continue working as long as my health permits," he concluded. "Life is an uncertainty."

Miller

## RENEW VOWS OF 50 YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Miller  
Entertained By Daughter  
On Anniversary

### Business Man For 12 Years In St. Johns Succumbs

Egbert Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Miller, was born in Lenawee county 79 years ago. Mr. Miller was stricken with a severe heart attack on the streets of Lansing, Thursday afternoon, Nov. 6, 1930, and died suddenly.

He came with his parents to Clinton county in 1868 and lived here continuously until about two years ago when he moved to Lansing. His wife was Rosina Withere, who with one daughter, Mrs. Daisy Ridenour of Lansing, survives.

Mr. Miller owned a farm in Riley for many years and was in the farm implement business in St. Johns for about 12 years. He also leaves one sister, Mrs. Jennie Hamilton of Riley, three brothers, Isaac of Ovid, Lewis of Fenton and Charles of St. Johns, and 5 grandchildren. One sister, Mrs. Enola Hainer, passed away in 1920. The funeral was held from the Jarvis-Estes home Saturday and burial made in Mt. Rest, St. Johns.

Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Miller of Dewitt, well known Clinton county people, observed their 50th wedding anniversary Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1928. In honor of the occasion their daughter, Mrs. Floyd Ridenour and husband entertained on that day at the Ridenour home, 613 Verlindey avenue, Lansing.

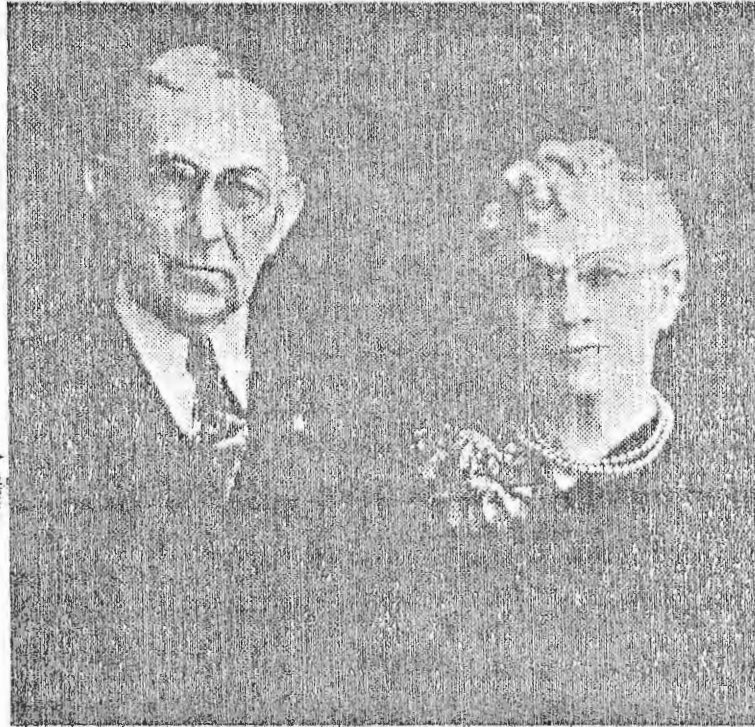
A three course dinner was served at 2 o'clock followed by a program consisting of several vocal numbers by Mrs. Arthur Gordon, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Floyd Ridenour; instrumental music by Mrs. Dennis O'Leary of Howell, and C. W. Miller of St. Johns and several recitations and songs by the children. The home was attractively decorated with yellow roses. Relatives were present from Howell, Holly, Dewitt, Riley, Olive and St. Johns.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have spent their entire lives in and around St. Johns, except for a few years when Mr. Miller was in business in Rose City, and are enjoying good health at their farm home near Dewitt. To this union two daughters were born, Mrs. Ira Lake, who passed away in 1901, and Mrs. Floyd Ridenour. They have five grandchildren: Elsie and Evelyn Lake and Bobby, Jack and Rex Ridenour.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller received many beautiful and useful gifts.

Miller

## MARRIED 50 YEARS



**MR. AND MRS. CHARLES W. MILLER**

Well known St. Johns residents, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Tuesday, Jan. 25. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were married Jan. 25, 1894, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Holmes in Riley township. They are both life long residents of this county, having lived in both Riley and Olive townships and since March, 1916, they have made their home in St. Johns. Mr. Miller is widely known as a thresherman and for the past several years has been Clinton county probation officer.

## RESIDENT OF OLIVE TOWNSHIP PASSES

STROKE PROVES FATAL TO  
MRS. JOHN F. MILLER;  
1933 RITES SUNDAY

Mrs. John F. Miller of Olive township passed away at their farm home near Dewitt Friday morning, April 7. Three years ago she suffered a stroke of paralysis from which she had recovered sufficiently to be enjoying a fair degree of health, when a second attack resulted in her death.

Mildred Lapham, daughter of Gilbert and Virginia Lapham was born in Olive township March 24, 1876, and had lived practically her whole life in Clinton county. She was married to John F. Miller of Olive township February 1, 1893. To them was born one son Earl, who with the husband survives her. She is also survived by two grandchildren and two brothers, LeRoy and Thomas Lapham, both of Olive township.

Funeral services were held at the Osgood funeral home Sunday afternoon, April 9, Rev. G. S. Northrup officiating and her earthly remains were laid to rest in the village cemetery at Dewitt.

Mrs. Miller was most highly esteemed by a large circle of friends and neighbors besides those who were most nearly bereaved, who also mourn her departure.

# YOUNG COUPLE WED AT CHURCH

Mohnke

## Melba Ernst Becomes Bride Of Edwin Mohnke In Riley Ceremony

On November 2, 1932, a beautiful fall wedding was solemnized at the Riley Lutheran church when Edwin Mohnke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Mohnke of Bengal township, took as his bride Melba Ernst of Riley township. The ceremony was performed by Rev. F. Coellner, pastor of the church. They entered the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march, played by Esther Luecht. The procession was escorted to the altar by Master Dennis Irier, cousin of the bride and groom and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Irier, acting as ring-bearer, attired in a white wool crepe suit, carrying the ring on a satin pillow, and little Miss Neva Martens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Martens, and cousin of the bride and groom, in the role of flower girl carrying a basket of flowers. She was dressed in a delicate shade of green crepe.

The bride wore a white satin dress trimmed with fur and wore a veil which terminated with a train. She carried a bridal bouquet of chrysanthemums and "baby mums," gathered with shower of ribbons. Doris Schumaker and Rosina Martens, friends of the bride, were bridesmaids. They wore pink silk crepe gowns, ostrich trimmed, and carried bouquets of pink and white snapdragons. Herman Mohnke, Jr., brother of the groom, and Carl Ernst brother of the bride, attended the groom. The church was tastily decorated with autumn leaves, chrysanthemums and fall flowers. The home also was nicely decorated.

Out-of-town guests were Harold Gable and sisters Dorothy and Mrs. Gerhart Gable of Pigeon, Mich., Miss Gwendelyn Ernst, sister of the bride and Mr. and Mrs. William Lemmine and son of Ionia.

The groom is a very successful and promising young farmer in this community. The bride is a charming young lady with several accomplishments. They will make their home on a farm in Bengal township, section 33.

On Thursday preceding the wedding, the neighbors pleasantly surprised the bride-elect with a kitchen shower at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Suffer, with whom Melba has made her home since the death of her mother several years ago. On Sunday evening the young people of the church gave her a surprise shower at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Schumaker, Miss Doris Schumaker acting as hostess. In each case light refreshments were served by the hostesses. Many useful presents were given.

Mr. and Mrs. Mohnke will be at home after a short time in their new home. A wedding dance was enjoyed by many of their friends at the Fowler opera house the evening of the wedding.