STREATOR DAI

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WENDMAATTORNE



FATAL CRASH—Shown above injured at the junction of afternoon. According to policar, driven by Ben Kovinsky Mary's hospital, where his Mrs. Lavone Holt, Rutland,

TIMES-PRESS

THE WEATHER

Mostly fair tonight. Wednesday partly cloudy. Little change in temperature. Low tonight mid 20s.

AY, MARCH 1, 1955.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

FATALLYANDURED



nobile in which Judge Donald M. Gregg, Wenona, was fatally 18 and U. S. Highway 51, twelve miles west of Streator Monday regg was going south on U. S. 51 when his auto and another (o., collided at the intersection. Kovinsky is a patient at St. isted as "fair." Riding with Gregg at the time of the crash was received in the local hearital. patient in the local hospital.

DONALD M. GREGG, FORMER JUDGE, IS VICTIM OF CRASH

Injured As Two Cars Collide At Highway Intersection.

Donald M. Gregg, 47, prominent Wenona attorney, and former county judge of Marshall county, was fatally hurt, and two other persons, including a Rutland woman, critically injured in a two-car collision at the intersection of U. S. Route 51 and state highway 18, twelve miles west of Streator, at 3:10 Monday afternoon.

Mr. Gregg died at 8:30 last evening at St. Mary's Hospital in Streator of a possible skull fracture and internal injuries, His

was the thirteenth traffic death of the year.

Two Critically Injured

In critically condition at St. Mary's hospital are Mrs. Lavone Holt, 17, of Rutland, a client of the Wenona attorney who was riding with him at the time, and Ben (Missal) Gregg, he was born Aug. ing with him at the time, and Ben Kovinsky, 61, a St. Louis, Mo., clothing salesman. The latter's condition was described as "poor."

Kovinsky, driver of the second car involved in the crash, is charged in a warrant obtained by state police, with failure to yield the right-of-way.

The exact extent of the Rutland woman's injuries, or of Kovinsky, had not been determined this afternoon.

Deputy Coroner William J. God-

in La Salle county since the first student at Pine Manor College, Wesley, Mass. Also surviving is a brother, Neal Gregg, Wenona postmaster, and one sister, Mrs. John C. (Lorraine) Calhoun, Virginia,

> 22, 1907, at Wenona. He was graduated from Wenona High School with the class of 1925, and from Bradley University with the class of 1929. He received his law degree at Northwestern University where he studied for three years, and in 1932 was admitted to practice.

On Bench 20 Years.

He returned to Wenona to engage in his profession, and it was but a short time until he entered politics where his popularity readifrey said an inquest into the death ly stamped itself. In his first bid of Mr. Gregg would be delayed for public office, he was elected

woman's injuries, or of Kovinsky, had not been determined this afternoon.

Deputy Coroner William J. Godfrey said an inquest into the death of Mr. Gregg would be delayed pending the outcome of the injures of the two other persons involved.

The fatal crash occurred during a heavy fog which hung over the countryside most of vesterday and last night. A light drizzle had left the pavement damp.

The fatal crash occurred during of last year.

He has since engaged to private practice at Wenona, the community in which he spent his entire life, and where his leadarship and where his leadarship.

According to State Highway Policemen Glenn Frederickson and Louis Wasalewski and Deputy Sheriff William Drummet of La Salle county, the impact occurred at about the center of the intersection of the two highways. Gregg, accompanied by Mrs. Holt, was proceeding south on U. S. Route 51, and Kovinsky traveling west on state highway 18.

The officers said Gregg's car was struck at the left front door and fender, spinning it around on the pavement until it came to a stop facing north. Kovinsky's car came to a stop at the northwest corner of the intersection, they reported. Both vehicles remained upright, and none of the victims was thrown from either car.

The Wenona attorney's automobile was demolished, and an estimated \$800 in damage caused to Kovinsky's car.

Question Eye-witness

As far as police could learn, the only eye-witness at the scene was Truman D. Combs of McNabb, whose truck was halted at the opposite side of the intersection on state highway 18, when the impact occurred.

Deputy Sheriff Drummet said Combs was unable to say if Kovinsky's car had stopped before entering U. S. Route 51, which is a through route at that point. Combs, however, insisted that he had stopped, the deputy reported.

The Wenona attorney had spent the afternoon in the courthouse at Ottawa in the interest of his client, and was en route home when the accident occurred. Kovinsky was on his way to Peoria after calling on customers in Streator during the day.

Announcement of the death of Mr. Gregg was received with mingled shock and sorrow throughout the Wenona area. Mrs. Gregg, who had been in Florida the past two weeks, arrived home today after a hurried trip by plane.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Thursday at St. John's Methodist church at Wenona, burial to follow in Wenona cemetery. Friends may call at the Thierry funeral home until noon Thursday, when the body will be taken to the church.

Surviving Mr. Gregg, are his wife, the former Esther Becsey, to whom he was married Nov. 27. 1931, at Peoria, two daughters, Judith Ann, Chicago, and Janice, a

On Bench 20 Years.

He returned to Wenona to engage in his profession, and it was but a short time until he entered politics where his popularity readily stamped itself. In his first bid for public office, he was elected county judge of Marshall, where he served five successive terms until his retirement in December of last year.

He has since engaged to private practice at Wenona, the community in which he spent his entire life, and where his leadership and influence have commanded wide respect, and his entire energies have been devoted to civic interests and the public welfare.

Mr. Gregg was a member of the Wenona Chamber of Commerce, Sigma Chi fraternity at Bradley University and the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity, at Northwestern.

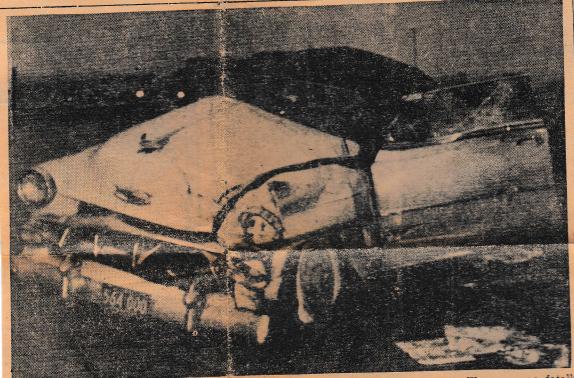
He was a member of the Marshall County and La Salle County Bar Associations and the Illinois State Bar Association.

TOR DAILY TIMES-PRE

STREATOR, ILLINOIS, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1955.

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FATAL CRASH—Shown above is the automobile in which Judge Donald M. Gregg, Wenona, was fatally injured at the junction of State Route 18 and U. S. Highway 51, twelve miles west of Streator Monday afternoon. According to police reports Gregg was going south on U. S. 51 when his auto and another car, driven by Ben Kovinsky, St. Louis, Mo., collided at the intersection. Kovinsky is a patient at St. Mary's hospital, where his condition is listed as "fair." Riding with Gregg at the time of the crash was Mrs. Lavone Holt, Rutland, who is also a patient in the local hospital.

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