

The Wenona

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WENONA MOURNS DEATH OF ATTORNEY D. M. GREGG

The grim realization of life's uncertainty fell upon everyone in this community on Monday evening when the sad news was circulated that Donald M. Gregg, one of the finest young men Wenona has ever produced, had passed away in St. Mary's hospital, Streator, five hours after being injured in an automobile accident.

The accident which took his life occurred about 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon at the intersection of U. S. Route 51 and State Highway 18, four miles north of Wenona when Mr. Gregg was returning from Ottawa where he had represented a client. Mrs. Lavonne Holt of Rutland, who was riding with him. The Gregg car proceeding south on Route 51, was struck by a car traveling west on Highway 18, driven by Ben Kovinsky, 61, of St. Louis, Missouri, a clothing salesman.

According to State Highway Policemen Glenn Frederickson and Louis Wasalewski and Deputy Sheriff William Drummet of LaSalle county, the impact occurred at the intersection of the two highways. The officers said the Gregg car was struck at the left front door and fender, spinning it around on the wet pavement until it came to a stop facing north. Kovinsky's car came to a stop at the southwest corner of the intersection.

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 accident occurred. Combs was unable to say if Kovinsky's car had stopped before entering U. S. Route 51, which is a thru route. Kovinsky, however, insisted that he had stopped.

Mr. Gregg, Kovinsky and Mrs. Holt were taken by ambulance to the Streator hospital where the former's death at 8:45 was the result of a post-mortem examination and internal in-

stronger faith and character, a more dedicated life, and a greater understanding and love towards each other."

Mrs. George Lambourn sang two solos, "In the Garden" and "The Lord's Prayer." Miss Blanche Lindgren was organist.

Burial was made in the Wenona cemetery. Pallbearers were Walter McAdoo, Benjamin Koch, Carrol Bay Miller, Clarence Jury, O. B. Pace, Robert Barnes and Frank Ireland.

Honorary pallbearers were: Judge Joseph E. Daily, Peoria. Attorney General Latham Castle, Sandwich.

Judge William I. Hibbs, Ottawa.
Judge J. A. Culbertson, Delavan.
Judge Henry J. Ingram, Peoria.
Judge Howard White, Peoria.
Judge Walter Dixon, Streator.
Judge John J. Massieon, Peru.
Judge J. E. Richards, Toulon.
Judge Don B. Pioletti, Eureka.
Judge Albert Pucci, Hennepin.
Judge Edward E. Haugens, Toluca.
Judge Louis A. Zearing, Princeton.
Judge Robert E. Larkin, Streator.
Judge Otto Kerner, Chicago.
Judge John Jarecki, Chicago.
Probate Clerk Albert Karzen, Chicago.

Att. Lawrence R. Ball, Peoria.
Att. John A. Berry, Streator.
Att. Geo. L. Herbolscheimer, LaSalle.

Att. Andrew J. O'Connor, Streator.
Att. A. H. Fellheimer, Pontiac.
Att. Jas. D. Hurley, LaSalle.
Att. John G. Boyle, Jr., DeKalb.
Att. Jay H. Magoon, Lacon.
Att. Edward Zukosky, Lacon.
Att. Robert T. Swengel, Henry.
Att. John Wosik, Henry.
Att. Charles P. Green, Henry.
Att. Walter C. Overbeck, Henry.
Att. Walter D. Boyle, Hennepin.
Att. Bernard Ghiglieri, Peoria.
Att. Glen L. Borden, Peoria.
Att. Kenneth Black, Peoria.
Att. Wallace J. Black, Peoria.
Frank Kudlacz, Chicago; Wayland



DONALD M. GREGG

Streator hospital where the former's death at 8:45 was the result of a possible skull fracture and internal injuries. Kovinsky and Mrs. Holt were also seriously injured.

Deputy Coroner William J. Godfrey said an inquest into Mr. Gregg's death will be delayed pending the outcome of their injuries. Kovinsky is charged in a warrant obtained by state police, with failure to yield the right-of-way.

Although Don was painfully injured he remained conscious and with his immediate legal commitments in mind, and believing that he would be hospitalized for several weeks while recovering from the accident, he summoned Attorney Carroll Bay Miller, an intimate friend, of Peoria, who arrived at the hospital with Walter McAdoo, early in the evening.

The announcement of Don's death was distressing news throughout the Wenona area. His wife, Esther, who had been in Florida two weeks with her mother, Mrs. Mary Becsey, and other relatives, arrived home early Tuesday in a hurried trip by plane. Their daughters, Judy of Chicago, and Janice, a student at Pine Manor Junior College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, left for Wenona immediately after being informed of the accident.

His body was taken to the Thierry funeral home where it lay in state Wednesday and on Thursday until noon when it was moved to St. John's Methodist church. Hundreds of friends and relatives from near and far called at the funeral home to pay their last respects.

Funeral services were conducted at two o'clock this afternoon by Rev. C. C. Keur of the Methodist church, and Rev. J. Melvin Hedin of Bethany Lutheran church, a close friend of the deceased. Rev. Hedin chose for his funeral text Romans 8: 28 "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose." He applied the text to his sermon "The Comfort of God's Presence." Quoting from the sermon:

"In tragedy we are tempted to think that God has forsaken us, but according to God's word, this is not so. Even though it seems so contradictory, it is rather a token of His love and presence, for through suffering He desires to cause us to grow into more beautiful Christian personalities, and to lead us into a richer and more satisfying life.

"God does not leave us to suffer alone. 'Lo, I am with you always,' He said. In His Son, Jesus Christ, He suffered the deepest of agonies upon Calvary's Cross, and therefore understands and knows the inner pain of grief. In a way that passes all understanding, He comforts our hearts with His love and mercy, and upholds us with His everlasting arms from day to day.

"The good that God works thru suffering includes a greater sense of peace with God, a deeper joy, a

Att. Gen. E. Borden, Peoria.
Att. Kenneth Black, Peoria.

Frank Kudlacz, Chicago; Wayland Downey, County Clerk of Marshall County; Fred Garrels, Marshall County Recorder; David Owen, former President of Bradley University; Edward Beckman, Louis J. Colehower, Everett M. Nelson, George Ball.

Mrs. Gary Metzger and her many assistants were in charge of the floral tributes which included scores of beautiful pieces.

Donald Missal Gregg, son of Mrs. Martha (Missal) Gregg and the late Daniel H. Gregg, was born in Wenona, August 22, 1907. He attended the Wenona schools, graduated with the high school class of 1925. In 1929, he graduated from Bradley University. In both high school and at Bradley, he distinguished himself as an all-round athlete and outstanding in track. "Scoie," as he was nicknamed in school, made the Bradley Hall of Fame with his record in track.

After graduating from Bradley, he entered Northwestern University where he received his degree in law and in 1932 was admitted to practice. He returned to Wenona and for nine years was associated in the law office with his father, D. H. Gregg, until his death on January 5, 1942. Soon after beginning his law practice, Don entered politics and was elected county judge of Marshall county in his first bid for public office. He served as county judge for five successive terms until he retired last December to devote his time to private practice in Wenona. During the last few years he had often served as probate judge in Chicago.

Don was a member of the Wenona Chamber of Commerce and was a speaker at its last meeting a week ago. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity at Bradley University; the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity at Northwestern; the Marshall and LaSalle County Bar Associations and the Illinois State Bar Association.

His death came in the prime of his life, when he was well advanced on a career as an extremely successful lawyer; enjoyed the warm friendship of a vast circle of friends, and was an indulgent father and husband, with every expectancy of an assured future.

He is survived by his wife, the former Esther Becsey to whom he was married on November 27, 1931, in Peoria; his two daughters, Judith Ann and Janice; his mother, Mrs. Martha Gregg; a brother, Neal, of Wenona, and a sister, Mrs. John (Lorraine) Calhoun of Virginia, Ill.

To Observe 50th Anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Arndt of Varna will observe their golden wedding anniversary on Sunday, March 6. Open house will be held between the hours of two and six o'clock in the afternoon at their home in Varna, and friends and relatives are invited to call. The Arndts request that there be no gifts.