

F AIRVIEW CEMETERY • BROWNSTOWN, INDIANA

Ruth Allen

Occupant Name: Ruth Allen

Location: Section C

Date of Birth: 1897

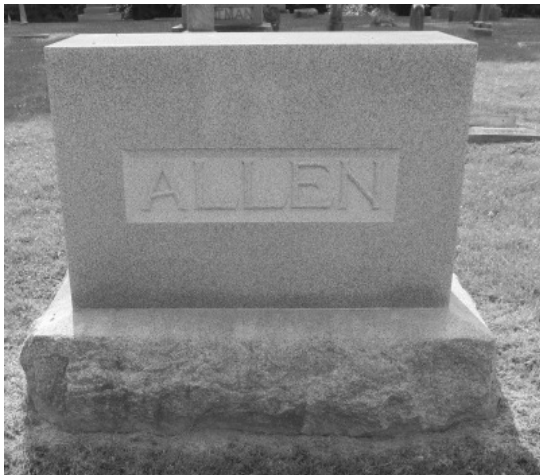
Date of Death: 1915

Date of Burial: 1915

Veteran: No

Multiple Occupants: No

Comment:



FUNERAL OF RIVER VICTIM HELD TODAY

Miss Ruth Allen, Former Brownstown Girl, was Laid to Rest There This Afternoon.

POPULAR AND WINSOME GIRL

Sad Accident Casts Gloom Over Both Washington and Brownstown— Well Known Here.

The funeral of Miss Ruth Allen, the popular and attractive Washington girl who lost her life in White River near that city Monday afternoon, was held this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the Methodist church at Brownstown, the former home of the Allen family. Miss Allen with her parents, left Brownstown about four or five years ago, but she was still remembered and loved by a host of friends there. Miss Allen was well known here, having visited here on several occasions. She was a cousin of Oakley Allen, of North Ewing street. Rev. W. S. Rader, of Washington, conducted the service.

The jovial disposition of the dead girl had made her an universal favorite in Washington, and the news of her death coming in a most cruel form, sent a thrill of horror through the minds of her many hundreds of acquaintances and especially among the members of the First Methodist church, by whom she was greatly beloved. As a member of the choir and other departments of the church, she was known as a willing worker. There is also unrestrained grief among the members of her graduating class, her death being the second by drowning, of its roster of members.

The Washington Herald gives a detailed account of the sad accident, as follows:

Stories as to the exact manner in which the dreadful accident happened vary, but the generally accepted version is that the boat drifted into the swift current just above the bridge and struck one of the abandoned piers of the old bridge. The boat, with its heavy load, immediately dipped and the occupants were pre-

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FUNERAL OF RIVER VICTIM HELD TODAY

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...cipitated into the fast rushing water. Both Burch and Harris, the two Petersburg young men who were in the boat with the girls, had an oar. Burch knew how to swim, but Harris did not. The party had been boating for some time and it is said that when the boat approached the dangerous current near the bridge, the party responded to calls of friends on the bridge. The skiff rolled violently with the protruding pier and all four of the girls and boys were hurled into the stream. The young men clung to the pier, pulling themselves up. Miss Hyatt first caught hold of Miss Brown and the boat, then floated to a pier and took hold. Miss Allen is said to have been an excellent swimmer, but the reason is not known why she did not swim. Miss Steidle and Miss Allen floated through the piling under the trestle and Miss Steidle sank twice to the bottom. She knows nothing of swimming, but held her nose and moved her limbs and arms. She was just ready to drift into underbrush when her timely rescue was effected. Watkins, her rescuer, was walking on the bridge, saw the accident, ran to the bank, stripped off his clothing and went to the rescue of the girls in a boat.

It is said that only one boy in the boat wanted to go under the trestle (the other members of the party wanting to turn and go back. Before the desired arrangements could be executed, the boat drifted into the current that rushes under the bridge and the accident had taken place.

Blanche Allen, a sister of the drowned girl, was in a boat with Mabel Russell of Evansville, Mabel Twitty, Harry Whetsell and Dale O'Donald of Washington, about two miles up the river and they did not hear of the accident until an hour and a half after it happened. The meeting of the sister and her father at the bridge was a sight that brought tears to the eyes of all who witnessed the sad scene.

FIRST OF 1915 WHEAT CROP

PLACE OF DEATH		INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH	
COUNTY OF <u>Brown</u>		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
TOWNSHIP OF <u>North</u>		Registered No. <u>97</u>	
NAME OF DECEASED		DATE OF DEATH	
<u>Ruth Allen</u>		<u>July 5, 1915</u>	
SEX <u>Female</u>		AGE <u>17</u> years	
MARRIAGE <u>Never</u>		MILITARY SERVICE <u>None</u>	
OCCUPATION <u>Student</u>		EDUCATION <u>High School</u>	
RELIGION <u>Methodist</u>		MANNER OF DEATH <u>Drowning</u>	
PLACE OF BIRTH <u>Washington, Ind.</u>		CAUSE OF DEATH <u>Drowning</u>	
FATHER <u>Wm. Allen</u>		MOTHER <u>Anna Allen</u>	
SPOUSE <u>None</u>		SIGNATURE OF DECEASED <u>Ruth Allen</u>	
SIGNATURE OF NEAREST RELATIVE <u>Wm. Allen</u>		SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN <u>Wm. Allen</u>	
SIGNATURE OF MINISTER <u>Wm. Allen</u>		SIGNATURE OF CORONER <u>Wm. Allen</u>	
SIGNATURE OF JURY <u>Wm. Allen</u>		SIGNATURE OF JURY <u>Wm. Allen</u>	
SIGNATURE OF JURY <u>Wm. Allen</u>		SIGNATURE OF JURY <u>Wm. Allen</u>	