

Lee Ora Blankenship

Occupant Name: Lee Ora Blankenship

Location: **Section W, Lot 28**

Date of Birth: 9/30/1921

Date of Death: 8/3/1952

Date of Burial: 8/6/1952

Veteran: Yes

Lot Owner: E. Blankenship

Multiple Occupants: No

Comment:



Funeral Rites Held Here Today For Stray Bullet Victim

Lee Blankenship, Former Local Resident, Killed Instantly Near Southport While Riding In Motor Boat.

Funeral rites were conducted at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the Brownstown Baptist Church, in charge of the Rev. C. W. Taylor, local Methodist minister, for Lee O. Blankenship, of Beech Grove, former Brownstown resident. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

Mr. Blankenship, thirty-year-old father of four small children, was killed instantly Sunday afternoon while drifting in a motorboat on White River near Southport Road bridge, the victim of a bullet fired from a .22-caliber rifle by a young Indianapolis housewife who was shooting at a can in the water. Firing the fatal shot, which is said to have "hit something in the water" and glanced off, was Mrs. George I. Hood, 23, who with her husband and another couple, were at the river where the men were shooting at cardboard targets set up on an embankment.

Mr. Blankenship and his brother-in-law, Corporal Donald Hicks, of Brownstown, who is stationed at Camp Atterbury, were together in the boat and Mr. Blankenship was bending over the motor when he was hit, Corporal Hicks told authorities. He said he heard what sounded like a "ping" and his brother-in-law dropped to the bottom of the boat. There was a hole in his left side and death was instant.

Mr. Blankenship was born and reared in Brownstown, leaving here about four years ago for Beech Grove where he was employed with the Kingan and Company in the boxcar rebuilding shop. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Blankenship. He was married in Indianapolis to Catherine Hicks, of Brownstown, a ward of Mr. and Mrs. Price Robertson, of Ewing.

Surviving in addition to the widow and children, Sarah, age 6, Linda, four, Stevie Lee two, and little eleven-months-old Kenneth, are the father, who lives in Vallonia; four brothers, William, of Indianapolis; Tom, of Brownstown township; Floyd of Vallonia and Hiram, of Spencer and three sisters, Mrs. Addie Henson, Brownstown; and Mrs. Helen Day and Mrs. Leonard Elkins, both of Paris Crossing.

Funeral services were conducted at 10 o'clock this morning from the Herrmann Funeral Home, Indianapolis, and the funeral party left there immediately following, coming here for the rites at 2 o'clock.