

Gertrude Callahan

Occupant Name: Gertrude Callahan

Location: Section R, Lot 14

Date of Birth: 7/8/1902

Date of Death: 12/7/1969

Date of Burial: 12/10/1969

Veteran: No

Lot Owner: L. Callahan

Multiple Occupants: No

Comment:



Fall Downstairs Is Fatal To Mrs. Gertrude Callahan



Mrs. Gertrude Callahan

A fall downstairs early Sunday morning at her home on Medora R1 proved fatal to Mrs. Gertrude Callahan, who retired in the spring of 1968 from the Brownstown Central High School faculty where she taught home economics.

Jackson County Coroner Keith Burkholder said death was due to a depressed skull fracture at the right temple, with contributing causes shock and exposure.

Mrs. Callahan's body was found shortly before 12:30 o'clock by four Brownstown residents, Miss Bernadotte Robertson, Mrs. Charles Lucas, Miss Helen Heiler and Miss Kathryn Horstman, who had been invited to be her guests for dinner.

When they reached the Callahan home they were unable to get in or to raise anyone. With the assistance of a neighbor they gained entry to the home and found Mrs. Callahan at the foot of the stairs, dead.

It is believed, according to Coroner Burkholder, that she tripped on a rubber stair mat at the top of the steps and fell the full length of the thirteen steps, striking her head on the baseboard at the foot. One house slipper was on the third step from the bottom.

A native of Jackson County, Mrs. Callahan was born July 8, 1902, a daughter of the late James and Carrie Cornett Brannaman.

She had taught school for 29 years prior to her retirement, the entire time in Jackson County. She was graduated from Brownstown High School with the Class of 1919 and held a Bachelor degree from Indiana State University, Terre Haute and had done graduate work at Indiana University.

She always had taught at the high school level and transferred to Brownstown Central following the merger of Driftwood School Township with the Brownstown School Corporation, having taught several years at Valonia. She also was on the faculties at Medora, Freetown and Clearspring High Schools.

Mrs. Callahan was one of the most active members of the Medora Christian Church, a leader in its Missionary Society and president of the Crusaders Class. She was a member of Upsilon Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society an honorary organization for women teachers, of the Indiana State Teachers' Association, the Jackson County Retired Teachers' Association,

tion, of which she was to serve as secretary this year and of the Indiana State Retired Teachers Association.

Through her teaching career, which spanned more than a quarter of a century, she was widely known and was admired and respected by her co-workers and her students.

Two sons, Marvin L. Callahan, of Big Spring, Texas, and Thomas D. Callahan, of Jeffersonville, and two daughters, Mrs. James R. (Ormalee) Skout, of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, and Miss Sharon Callahan, of Indianapolis, survive, as do four grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Marie Cooley, of Lawrenceburg.

One son is deceased. Funeral rites were held this afternoon from the Spurgeon Funeral Home in charge of Mr. James Kasler, pastor of the Medora Christian Church, in Lawrenceburg. Burial was in Brownstown's Fairview Cemetery.