

## **John Frederick Benkert**

**Jan. 29, 1854 – July 2, 1942**

### **John Benkert, 88, Oldest Monticello Citizen Succumbs Hold Funeral services for Highly Esteemed Man Sunday Afternoon**

Funeral services for John Benkert, 88 years of age, Monticello's oldest citizen, and a life-long resident of the Monticello vicinity, who passed away at 6:45 Thursday evening at his home on Monroe street following a stroke which he suffered about 10 days before, were conducted at 1:30 Sunday afternoon in the Voegeli funeral home and at 2 in the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church.

Rev. A. R. Achtemeier, church pastor, officiated, and burial was in Highland cemetery. Pallbearers were Arthur C. Benkert, Josef F. Benkert, Werner Blum and Sylvan Bidlingmaier, Monroe, Norman Benkert, Monticello, and Paul Schrepfer, Belleville.

Mr. Benkert suffered a stroke one evening about 10 days before his death, and this condition along with his advanced years, proved too big an obstacle for him to overcome. He was active until the time of his last illness, having worked in his garden the day on which the stroke occurred.

### **Farmed in Washington**

Mr Benkert was born Jan. 29, 1854, the son of David and Katharine Kung Benkert. Until his retirement Mr. Benkert operated the farm in Washington township now operated by C. W. Loveland. He was a pioneer dairyman in Washington township. Since retiring from farming Mr. Benkert had made his home in Monticello. Mr. Benkert was united in marriage in 1881 to Rosina Blum, who passed away in 1888. Three years later he was married to his first wife's sister, Ursula Blum. She passed away in 1931.

Mr. Benkert was a member Of the Monticello Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church.

News of Mr. Benkert's death was received with sincere regret by his many friends both here and elsewhere. His industrious character, sterling disposition and unquestioned honesty placed him in high esteem by all who knew him.

Mr. Benkert was fond of gardening and spent many hours among his flowers and plants. Unusually active for one of his advanced years, Mr. Benkert took pride in the fact that he managed his garden with a minimum of assistance until the day he became bedfast.

Survivors are three daughters, Misses Fannie and Frieda Benkert and Mrs. Rosa Roth, all at home.

He was preceded by three brothers, Jacob, David and Fred, and two sisters, Mary and Eliza North.