

Benjamin K. Cleveland
Sept. 11, 1851 - April 11, 1940

Cleveland Rites

ALBANY — Masonic funeral services for Ben Cleveland, 85, one of the last surviving members of the Beloit volunteer fire department and a leader for many years in the Albany Masonic lodge, will be held today at 2 p. m. in the home here. Burial will be in Attica cemetery.

Mr. Cleveland died Thursday after a long illness. Monday he would have completed 45 years' affiliation with the Masonic Lodge.

His membership in the Beloit fire department was among Mr. Cleveland's most treasured possessions. He was a regular attendant at the reunions of the organization and participated in the centennial parade in 1936.

About three years ago Mr. Cleveland drew heavily on his fire-fighting experience to save his wife from death. Her clothing caught fire from blazing brushwood but he extinguished the flames single-handedly.

He was born in Norway and with his family came to this country and settled at Brodhead. In 1874 he married Amelia Ordell at Beloit. She died in 1893 and he left to operate blacksmith shops in Attica and later here in Albany. He married Mrs. Lena Rheuelow(?sp), Mt. Pleasant, in 1898.

They moved to Albany 35 years ago and Mr. Cleveland had been retired for the past 20 years.

Surviving are the widow; four daughters, Mrs. Andrew Anderson, Albany; Mrs. Andrew Cordes, Afton; Mrs. Ira Keiser, Beloit, and Mrs. C. L. Kennett, Madison; a son, Ben, Albany; 15 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and three stepdaughters, Mrs. Claude Mathems and Mrs. Victor Zentner, Albany, and Mrs. Charles Knight, Fayette, Ia.