

Ira B. Pierce Dies Tuesday Following Fracture of Hip

1871 - 1952

Ira B. Pierce, 81 years of age, life-long resident of the Monticello area, and a former postmaster here, passed away at 1 Tuesday afternoon in the St. Clare hospital, Monroe, where he had been a patient for a week.

Mr Pierce died as the result of complications from a hip fracture.

Born on Rupp Farm

Ira B. Pierce was born Aug. 27, 1871, on the farm now owned by Jacob Rupp. He was the son of James E. and Susan Baxter Pierce. He graduated from the Monroe high school in 1891. He was united in marriage to Anna Streiff Nov. 11, 1915, the ceremony taking place in Freeport.

Closely identified with community affairs for years, Mr. Pierce served as postmaster under the second administration of President Cleveland and again for eight and one-half years under President Wilson.

As a young man he was engaged in the meat and ice business. With the late E. J. Blum he erected the building now occupied by the Monticello Market and the Woelffer drug store. He disposed of this property in 1911. He and his brother, Frank, also operated the Pierce Brothers farm at the south edge of the village, for many years. The brothers retired from this operation in 1947, after which the farm was purchased by Ray Luchsinger.

He was a past director of the national Holstein-Friesian association. He served as the first president of the Green County Farm Bureau when it was organized, and also was one of the organizers of the Monticello North Side Swiss Cheese Co-op. He served as secretary of the factory for many years.

Mr. Pierce also served as village trustee and was assessor of the village at one time. As a young man he was a member of the old Company H home guards at Monroe.

Surviving are his wife; one brother, Frank, Monroe; and one sister, Mrs. Melvin Magoon, Gladstone, Mich. He was preceded in death by his parents and 10 brothers and sisters.

Funeral Friday

Funeral services will be held at 2 Friday afternoon at the Voegeli funeral home. The Rev. A. R. Achtemeier, pastor of the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed Church, will officiate, and burial will be in Highland cemetery.