

Mrs. D. H. Evans, Nashville's 'Flying Grandmother,' Dies

(Special to The State Journal)
 NASHVILLE, Dec. 22 — Mrs. Daniel H. Evans, Nashville's "flying grandmother," died here Sunday night. She was 90 years old. Mrs. Evans, "Grandma Evans" to all of Nashville, got her "flying" title after taking an airplane ride shortly after she reached the age of 70. She didn't like the experience too much, but the title stuck. Mrs. Evans' great loves were fishing and her flower garden—and just last summer she raised more than 1,200 astors in addition to samples of numerous other varieties.

She was also noted for her handmade life-sized dolls, a hobby which netted her a considerable profit over the past few years.

In the earlier years, Mrs. Evans was a public school teacher in New York, and, after coming to Nashville about 60 years ago, was a practical nurse for 25 years.

She was a member of the Nashville Methodist church, and just recently was presented a certificate for having attended services more regularly during the past year than any other member of the congregation. She also was a member of the Women's Literary club and the Nashville Garden club.

Mrs. Evans died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Warner, with whom she had been living for the past eight years. Surviving are five grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 2 p. m. at the Methodist church, with Rev. Floyd Cramer of Battle Creek and Rev. Arthur Howell of Nashville officiating. Interment will be in Wilcox cemetery, Maple Grove township.

Mr. Frith had been employed at Percy Jones army hospital in Battle Creek for the last three years. He carried a steamfitter's card. He was on his way to work at the hospital, where he was employed in the engineering department. The truck driver, Jack Young, 32, of Waukegan, Ill., told state police that Frith pulled out of a line of southbound traffic as though to pass cars ahead of him and came face to face with the northbound truck. Young said he swerved his truck toward the right-hand ditch and hit his brakes. Frith evidently headed for the same ditch, since the crumpled wreck of his car lay against the battered tractor well off the highway.

Frith was found under the wreckage of his car. He suffered multiple fractures and was drenched with fuel oil from a saddle tank. Young was thrown from the cab of his truck and his right arm was caught under the tractor's running board and severely fractured.

Frith was born Dec. 27, 1922 in Lansing, a son of E. Dean Frith of near Nashville and the late Laura Frith. He graduated from high school in Vermontville and went into the Merchant Marine in World War II. He lived in Vermontville the last four years and was a member of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Etta Frith, R. 2, Vermontville, is the paternal grandmother. The three sisters and six brothers are: Mrs. Robert (Caroline) Polhamus and Mrs. Arthur (Mable) Drake, Jr., of Bellevue; Miss Anna, Leon and Herbert Frith, living with their father; John of Saranac, Joseph of East Lansing, Charles with the Navy at Pensacola, Fla., and George of the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill. Their mother died two years ago and the father has remarried.

Man Killed in Traffic Crash

Ashley Frith of Vermontville Dies Tuesday in Truck-Auto Mishap West of Bellevue

Ashley E. Frith, 29, of 265 N. Main street, Vermontville, was instantly killed at 6:30 a. m. Tuesday, in a head-on collision between his car and a heavily-loaded truck-trailer combination on highway M-78, six miles north of Battle Creek. His wife the former Marjorie Burnett of Albion underwent major surgery at Hayes-Green-Beach hospital here Monday morning. They were married in November, 1943, and have two children, Larry, 6, and Tommy, 10 months.