

Henry "Toot" Hall Dies at Age, 75



Henry B. "Toot" Hall, one-time Olivet College football coach, ardent hunter, and proprietor with his brother of a large farm in Bellevue Township, died at 8 p. m. Friday in his farm home. He had been in ill health most of last summer and confined to his house several weeks before his final illness.

He was 75 years old, having been born Aug. 1, 1879, in Bellevue Township, on the old homestead which has been in the family for 115 years. His parents were Henry B. and Maria Jane (Ringer) Hall.

After high school at Bellevue, he went to Olivet College from 1899 to 1901, afterward coaching football 1901-03, 1908-10, and in 1912. Those were the days when Michigan Agricultural College teams, now the Mighty MSC Spartans, were trounced or tied regularly by the Olivet Crumsons.

From coaching, Mr. Hall turned to the hardware business in Olivet for 10 years, then back to the farm with his brother, Daniel. Although farming was his occupation until his death, he enjoyed following the football fortunes of both Olivet and Bellevue through the years, and was one of a nucleus of the fox hunting and racoon hunting fraternity in this area.

He was honored Oct. 21, 1950, at the Olivet College Homecoming, the Saturday game being played on "Toot Hall Day."

It was on Nov. 12, 1907, that he married the former Fannie Green, a member of one of Olivet's pioneer families. She died in 1943.

Surviving besides his brother are two daughters, Mrs. Eugene (Betsy) Poyer of Bellevue and Mrs. Harold (Helen) Wetherell of Belleville; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Oct. 18 from the Bellevue Baptist church. Dr. Raymond B. Blakney, president of Olivet College, officiated. The pallbearers were E. A. Mahoney, Forest Bradley, Gilford Leaser, Arthur Smith William Brown and Ralph Keith.

Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Bellevue.

Among the out of town people attending the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wetherell and two sons of Belleville; Mrs. Oscar Wetherell and Dorothy and Mrs. Harry Tessin of Kalamazoo; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Taggart, Ann Arbor; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bradley of Battle Creek; Mr. and Mrs. Phil Faustman of Kalamo; Mrs. Mona Allen and daughters, Lorraine and Carlotta of Flint, plus several people from Olivet.

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