

Ola Ray Perkins Services Held Sunday

Following an illness of four months, Ola Ray Perkins passed away Friday morning, January 7, at his home in Vermontville at the age of 61.

Ola Perkins, the son of William and Charlotte Case, was born in Bankers, Mich. March 7, 1893. He was married to Mabel Smith on March 23, 1913. He made his home in Vermontville for the past two and half years, previously he lived in Battle Creek for ten years. Earlier in life he lived around the Sunfield area. Mr. Perkins was a factory worker.

Surviving are his wife, Mabel; three sons, Clifford of Lansing, Kenneth and Melvin both of Vermonville; foster father, Norris Perkins of Sunfield; six grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Jake Berkley of Detroit and Elsie Case of Ruth, Mich.; one brother, William Case of Dundee; also several nieces and nephews.

The Rev. Glenn Rairigh officiated at the services which were held Sunday afternoon, January 9, at two o'clock at the Mapes Funeral home. Interment was made in Freemire cemetery.

Pallbearers were Dale Figg, Orlando Mast, Forrest Estep, Ernest Krebs, Ward Bishop and Harold Bishop.

Samuel B. Cowles—Mr. Samuel B. Cowles, 80, of 824 Bridge st., died Monday at a local hospital. Mr. Cowles had been a resident of Lansing for the past 30 years. Surviving are three sons, Dale Hagerman and Wayne Hagerman, both of Lansing, and Charles Hagerman of Charlevoix, and four daughters, Mrs. Virginia Clark and Miss Flossie Hagerman, both of Bellaire, Mrs. Irah Raymond of Mt. Pleasant and Mrs. Cora McCoy of Lansing.

with burial in Palo cemetery.
VERMONTVILLE—Mrs. Reuben Smith, 76 of Vermontville, died Thursday at a Nashville convalescent home. The body is at the Otto funeral home here.
Graveside funera.

Operation Potterville

By Ruth Wright

Uncle Ray, the uncle who helped take such wonderful care of Pop, died, very unexpectedly New Year's night, a great loss to all of us. The first time I can remember him was in the winter of 1917, when our baby brother was near death with pneumonia. Uncle Ray knew of something he thought might help and so he brought it from Sunfield to our farm home southeast of Vermontville. Nowadays that would be a matter of only a few minutes drive, but in those days of narrow roads and no snow plows, it was a different story. There was a blizzard that day and Uncle Ray shoveled snow nearly all the way to reach us. It made quite an impression on me, a child of seven, especially when Pop told us afterwards that he was the kind who would do anything for anyone who needed help. I didn't realize then how true that statement was.

The last thing he did, a few minutes before he died, was to make a broom handle into a walking stick with a nail in the end of it for their eighty year old neighbor. He had just accompanied her home from their house, where she was spending the evening with them, and was worried about her slipping on the ice. It was a small act, but it could easily have saved the elderly woman from a fall that would have made an invalid of her for the rest of her life. Such acts of kindness will be remembered by many around Sunfield for years to come.

That day, he and my aunt had gone to Richland to look at the collection of old engines there. His father was a thresher, and Uncle Ray had long been looking for his old steam engine, having remembered the serial number, intending to buy it some day if he could find it.

The recent fire at Harry's father's farm, made us realize how little firemen are appreciated. Although it was evident that it was going to be a complete loss, men continued to risk their lives to put out the fire as quickly as possible, because there was danger of the barn burning too; if the flames flared outside the walls of the house, and also because the state fire laws require that a fire be extinguished no matter how much of the building is already burned. The Diamond fire chief, and one of his men were in the bed room over