

March 18, 1971

Luther E. Falk

Luther E. Falk, 84, a retired newspaper man, and a native of South Dakota, died Saturday, Feb. 27, in a Spokane, Wash. hospital after a sudden heart attack.

Funeral services were held in the Gothic Chapel of the Hazen and Jaeger Funeral Home in Spokane at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Mar. 2. The Rev. E.P. Dreyer officiated, Byron Swanson, soloist, sang, "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Abide With Me," accompanied by Eleanor Dittrick, organist. Burial was in Riverside Memorial Park.

Luther E. Falk, son of Jonas and Mary Falk, was born February 17, 1884, in Riverside Township in Brown County. He was a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus Academy and College at St. Peter, Minn., and attended the 50th anniversary celebration of the institution.

He was united in marriage to Helen Nelson of St. Louis Park, Minn. Three sons were born to this union.

Mr. Falk, a newspaper man, had been on the editorial staff of the Groton Independent from 1940-1944 and Devils Lake, N.D. newspapers. He was also an historical authority on the area and its early pioneers and was an instigator of the "Territorial Pioneers of Brown County." Mr. Falk was present when Groton celebrated its 75th anniversary and wrote the pageant for the event.

The family moved to California in 1946 and settled in the Santa Barbara community. Mr. Falk and his wife Helen celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at Trinity Lutheran Church in Santa Barbara where they had been members for 20 years.

Since retiring Mr. Falk was a correspondent for a Swedish newspaper for a number of years and was a pen pal of Einer Tenngren of Sweden who visited Groton last summer. Mr. Tenngren came in research of immigrants from his providence in Sweden. Those he was interested in were the Swensens, Johnsons, Greens and Falks.

Mr. and Mrs. Falk moved to Spokane, Wash. last year to be near their son Don.

Survivors include his wife Helen, Leonard, Santa Barbara, Calif.; Don, Spokane, Wash.; Ed, Waterloo, Ia.; four grandchildren and one sister, Mrs. Foster (Ruth) Rix, Groton.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Mrs. Herman Walter and Mrs. John Ogren.