

Civic Leader Dies Suddenly In Dingle



John Rodney Ream, 66, prominent Bear Lake County farmer, businessman and civic leader, died suddenly of a heart attack about 11:15 p.m., April 23 in his home at Dingle. A son of William D. and Nora Ellen Crockett Ream, he was born January 20, 1900 in Dingle.

He attended schools at Dingle, Lava Hot Springs, and graduated from high school in Long Beach, California. Following graduation from the University of Utah, in Salt Lake City, in 1926, with a degree in electrical engineering, he went to southern California, where he was employed in his professional field.

Mr. Ream and Norma Volker were married June 21, 1927. About 1930 the Reams returned to Dingle, where Mr. Ream had since resided. A progressive and successful farmer, Mr. Ream was among the first in the county to use the tractor, and adopt modern techniques in land use, upkeep and irrigation systems. Besides farming and ranching, Mr. Ream became one of the area's largest turkey growers, raising from 12,000 to 15,000 a year between 1930 and 1946.

His business interests were varied. He was a co-founder of the Tri-State National Bank in 1963, and has since served as a director. He was interested in the Montpelier Hotel and rental properties, as well as a new motel in Soda Springs. Over the years he was instrumental in helping several persons get a start in business.

Interested in many phases of community life, Mr. Ream was a member of the Bear Lake Memorial Hospital Board, and had served continuously since opening of the institution on March 20, 1950, as finance chairman. Another office of long tenure was chairmanship of the Bear Lake Soil Conservation District since 1950, until the time of death. He was elected district supervisor on January 1, 1949.

He served as secretary of the Bear Lake Stockmen's Association for about 20 years, and also was at times, president and secretary of the Ream-Crockett Irrigation Company. He was a former member and governor of LOOM No. 858. An active Rotarian, Mr. Ream had for years served as chairman of the Rural-Urban committee.

Besides his widow of Dingle, he is survived by five children, Mrs. Shelby L. (Denise) Whaley of Denver, W. Dale Ream, M.D., of Stanford, California, now completing internship at Santa Clara Hospital at San Jose; John R. Ream, M. D., orthopedic surgeon, U.S. 36th evacuation hospital, Vung Tau, South Viet Nam; Mrs. Floyd L. (Joan) Bunderson, assistant professor of home economics and head of clothing and textile department at ISU in Pocatello; and Mrs. Marvin E. (Elisabeth) Jensen, a graduating senior at BYU in Provo, and valedictorian in forthcoming commencement in the College of Human Relations; and five grandchildren.

Also surviving are six brothers and sisters, William W. Ream of Dingle and Provo, Fabian D. Ream of San Leandro, California, Milton T. Ream, M.D., of Hayward, California, Douglas D. Ream, M.D., Berkeley, California, Beulah Ream Allen, M.D., Dean of College of Nursing at BYU in Provo, and also of Palo Alto, and Kenneth Ream of Dingle. Preceding him in death were one sister and two brothers, Mrs. Ida Choquette, Mitchell Ream and Lee Ream.

Services were held at 1 p.m., Wednesday in the Montpelier LDS Third-Fifth Ward Chapel followed by interment in the Ream family burial vaults at the Dingle cemetery under direction of Matthews Mortuary.

Rites Conducted For J. Rodney Ream

The funeral of J. Rodney Ream of Dingle was held at 1 p. m., April 27, in the Montpelier LDS Third-Fifth ward chapel with Bishop Golden Keetch of Dingle conducting. President Milton P. Ream offered the family prayer at the mortuary and services were opened with a vocal selection, "Oh My Father," by a trio, Max T. Haddock, Philip Hulme and Eugene J. Grimes; invocation, Bishop J. Clarence Lindsay; obituary, Bishop Clifford Skinner; vocal solo, "In The Garden", Mr. Haddock; speaker, Lewis Munk; vocal solo, "The Lord's Prayer", Mrs. Waldo Andersen; speaker, Bishop Doyle Anthony; song, "When Upon Life's Billows", trio; benediction, President Eugene P. Shepherd. Mrs. Philip Hulme played the prelude and postlude music.

Interment was in the family vault at the Dingle cemetery, and the dedicatory prayer was given by Paul Adams. Casket bearers were John R. Ream Jr., Lee Allen, Don F. Choquette, Ralph Booth, William Jewell and James Pugmire.

Honorary pallbearers were: W. Dale Ream, W. Wesley Ream, Fabian Ream, Douglas G. Ream, Milton P. Ream, Kenneth D. Ream, Shelby L. Whaley, Floyd L. Bunderson, Marvin E. Jensen, H. W. Allinger, Clair Barrett, Willis G. Candian, Lloyd Dunn, C. E. Jewell, J. D. McClellan, B. A. McDevitt, Hersley Spencer and Warren G. Wright.