BROWN COUNTY, INDIANA 
OBITUARIES 
1914—1984 

VOLUME 1 

Compiled by Helen H. Reeve 
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Brown County Historical Society, Nashville, Indiana
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Jasper Parsley #2

Funeral services were held for Mr. Jasper Parsley at the First Presbyterian Church in Wolf-Point, Montana on Thursday, November 5, 1959 at 10 a.m., conducted by Rev. Kenneth A. Johnson. Interment was in the Greenwood Cemetery at Wolf-Point.

Mr. Parsley was born in Brown County, January 19, 1887. He was united in marriage to Cora Sievlin, a sister of the late Marietta Moser and William Sievlin and Mrs. Myrtle McIlvain.

The Parsleys moved to Montana several years ago. Mr. Parsley was a retired rancher. Surviving are the widow, nine children, twenty-five grandchildren and twenty-one great-grandchildren. Pallbearers were six of the grandsons. Dec. 3, 1959

Jennings Parsley

Funeral services for Jennings Parsley, 52 years old, former manager of the Trafalgair Farm Bureau Coop, was held at 1 p.m. Friday in the Clark Funeral Home at Morgantown. Burial was in the First Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Mr. Parsley died Tuesday, November 29, 1960 at his home. He was born in Brown County, had spent most of his life in Johnson County and was graduated from the Trafalgair High School. He was a member of the Morgantown Baptist Church.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Lorene Parsley; two sons, William Allen Parsley, a student at Purdue University, and David Parsley, at home; his mother, Mrs. Addie Parsley of Morgantown, and a brother, Nathaniel Parsley of Johnson County. Dec. 8, 1960

Lorene Parsley

Lorene Clark Parsley, 70, Trafalgair, died on Saturday, May 1, 1982 at Community Hospital in Indianapolis after a three-week stay there.

A Johnson County native, she was born on September 23, 1911 to Robert D. and Jessie E. Barton Clark. She married Jennings M. Parsley in Shelbyville on August 24, 1935 and he died in 1960.

Mrs. Parsley was a member of Trafalgair United Methodist Church, Trafalgair Home Economics Club, War Mothers, and Singles Club.

She retired in 1976 after 20 years employment with Franklin Methodist Home. (cont'd next column)

Her survivors are two sons, William Parsley of Franklin and David Parsley of Trafalgair; a brother, Leon Clark of Martinsville; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was Tuesday at Meredith Clark Funeral Home with Rev. Ruth Starr officiating and burial at First Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Johnson County. May 5, 1982.

Lottie M. Parsley

Lottie Mae Parsley, who lived on Route 3 Morgantown, died Tuesday, May 8, at Morgan County Memorial Hospital after a 2-day illness. She was 90 years old.

She was born April 11, 1899 in Brown County to William F. and Anna Swift Parsley.

Miss Parsley was a member of the Goshen Community Church.

Survivors include a nephew, Elmer A. Parsley Jr. of Route 4 Nashville, and a niece, Eileen Eubanks of Indianapolis.

Funeral services were conducted Friday at the Bond Funeral Home in Nashville.

Burial followed in Goshen Cemetery. May 16, 1979

Lucille Parsley

Oak Ridge Column, 6/3/1943

Died in Alaska. She was a dau. of W/H Otto Parsley and had graduated from Raleigh High School. She was married but her husband's name is unknown.

Lucy Parsley

Lucy Parsley, 39 years old, died Monday, July 16, at Robert Long Hospital, Indianapolis, where she had recently been moved following a short stay at Franklin Hospital. Death was attributed to a stroke.

Born July 3, 1913 at Bean Blossom, she was one of nine children born to Edward and Mary Hughes Parsley, and had lived all her life in that community.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon by Rev. Charles Haarer at the Bean Blossom Mennonite Church, of which she was a member. Burial was at Bean Blossom Cemetery.

Surviving with her mother are two brothers, Joseph, of Rushville, Ernest, of Indianapolis, and four sisters, Mrs. Opal Pittman, Indianapolis, Mrs. Nellie Ciemmer and Mrs. Hazel Watson, both of Trafalgair, and Mrs. Edith Stinbrook, of Edinburg. July 19, 1951

Margaret Parsley

Died Feb. 9, 1969 at Indpls. nursing home, at age 78. She was born in Brown Co., July 14, 1870. She was the last of 11 children of the family of W/H Luther Pool. She married at an early age to Robert Parsley who died in Aug. of 1935. She formerly lived in Haibling Twp. Surv.: a dau., Mrs. Clara Brown, Edinburg & 3 grandchildren also of Edinburg. Niece Funeral with burial in Rest Haven Ca., at Edinburg. Br. Co. DEMOCRAT, Feb. 17, 1969

Mary A. Parsley

Died Sept. 26, 1914, at home in Georgetown, aged 82 years, 6 months & 20 days. She was born March 6, 1832; married James Parsley. They had 10 children, 3 of whom are deceased. Burial was in Hyde Cemetery. Both buried. Br. Co. DEMOCRAT, Oct. 1, 1914

Mary E. Parsley

(Writen on obit: 10/16/1956)

Died at the Franklin, Ind. Hosp., at age 87; a resident of Bean Blossom. She was born in Br. Co. @ 42 yrs., Mrs. Hazel Watson & Mrs. Nellie Clemmer, both of Trafalgair, Mrs. Edith Stinbrook, Edinburg and Mrs. Opal Pittman, Indianapolis.

Also surv. are a son, Joseph Parsley of Indianapolis and a sis., Mrs. Ethel Parsley of Goshen, Calif. Clark Funeral service of Morgantown with burial in Bean Blossom Cemetery. A bro., John Hughes, survives and lives in Morgantown. (NOT Br. Co. Democrat)

May Parsley

Died Jan. 7, 1926 at the home of her dau., Mrs. Charles Davis in Bridgeport, where she was visiting, at age 78. She was a resident of Trafalgair. Surv. are 5 children, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Dolly Myers of Chicago, Sherman Parsley of Kansas City, Wm. Parsley of North St. Paul, and Mrs. Warrick. There are many relatives here. Br. Co. DEMOCRAT, Jan. 14, 1926

Newton Parsley

Newton Parsley, 75, died in the Johnson County Hospital on Sunday, November 25, Parsley, who lived north of Edinburg, had been ill a week before his death.

He was born in Brown County in 1887 to Newton and Mary Ellen Parsley. He married the former Mary Elizabeth Watts in 1906. He had been a horse trainer on the J. L. Bradley farm many years.

Mr. Parsley's wife, Mary, three sons, Oliver and Dale, Edinburg, and Russell, Shelbyville, and one daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Hollis, Monroe, survive.

Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Frank Bean at the Mutz Funeral Home in Edinburg, on Wednesday November 28. Burial was in Rest Haven Cemetery. 11- 29, 1962
MRS. OTA O. POLLEY
Funeral services for Mrs. Ota O. Polley, 66, were held on Wednes-
day, September 16, in the Greene & Harrell Funeral Home
Bloomington, Indiana. Rev. Mar-
vin M. Byrdwell conducted the
rites and burial was in Mt. Gil-
ed Cemetery.
Mrs. Polley was a native of
Brown County, a member of the
Unionville Baptist Church. She
passed away at her home on the
Unionville Rd. on Monday. She
was the wife of James R. Polley
who survives.
Surviving, with the husband are
two sons, James E. Polley, Jr. of Bloomington, Paul M.
Polley, R10, Bloomington. Four
daughters, Mrs. L. C. (Elizabeth)
Van Hook, R7, Bloomington; Mrs.
John (Alice) Parent, Al-
buquerque, New Mexico; Mrs. L.
(Opal) Knudson, Oak Har-
bor, Washington and Mrs. Don
(Carolyn) Linicome, Freedom,
Indiana.
One brother, Boston Ogle, Brummett Rd. two half brothers
Clarence and Lloyd Moore, R7,
Bloomington; one sister, Mrs.
Rhoda Carter, Greenwood and
her mother, Mrs. Hannah Moore
R7, Bloomington along with
nine grandchildren and one
great-grandchild also survive.
S E P T. 17, 1964

BELLE PONTIUS
Four months after the death of
her husband, Mrs. Belle Pontius,
69, died at 1:15 a.m. Monday at the
Gosport Nursing Home. She
had been ill for several years and
in the nursing home for 14 months.
The family formerly lived at
Trevlac, moving near Unionville
about twenty years ago.
Mrs. Pontiuss husband, Oliver,
died Sept. 22. Survivors are a
son, Percy of Unionville; a daugh-
ter, Mrs. Anna Halligan of Bloom-
ington, 9 grandchildren, and 7
great grandchildren.
Mrs. Pontius was a member of the
Church of God.
Funeral services were held at 2
p.m. Wednesday at the Allen
Chapel with Rev. W. C. Chafin of-
ficiating. Burial was in Pleasant
View Cemetery at Monroe Co. The
Pallbearers were grandsons and
granddaughters were flower bear-
ers. F E B. 9, 1950

Charles F. Pool
Charles F. Pool, 80 years old, a
former resident of Indiana-
apolis, died yesterday in Morgan
(continues next column)

POO - 1083

William T. Pool
Services were held Saturday,
September 7, at the Bond
Funeral Home in Nashville for
William T. Pool, 64, of
Keanny, Arizona, formerly of
Nashville.
Pool was found dead at the
place of his employment in
Keanny August 31, where he
was a night watchman.
Pool had served 3 years in the
army in the early 30's.
He was born August 20, 1910
at Oreiue, Indiana, the son of
William E. and Cora
Blaides Pool.
Services were conducted by
Rev. Stanley Mahan and burial
was in the Greenlawn
cemetery at Nashville.
Survivors include a son,
William of Morgantown route
3; a daughter, Mrs. Mary
Margaret Innman of Helms-
burg; a brother, Koester C.
Pool of White Bear, Minne-
sota; and 11 grandchildren.
One son preceded him in
death. S E P T. 11, 1974

William Thomas Pool
Dies Here at Age of 80

William Thomas Pool, the son of
Luther and Clarinda Pool, was born
near Nashville March 28, 1890 and
passed away February 12, 1940 at
the age of 80 years, 10 months and
14 days. Mr. Pool, respected by all who
knew him, was taken ill with influ-
enza last week at his home in the
Montz building here, where he
lived alone. He was removed to the county
infirmary Sunday and passed away
the following day.
Mr. Pool was one of a family of
eleven children and spent much of
his life in Illinois. He moved back
to Brown county about eight years ago.
He is survived by three sisters, Mrs.
Gordon Simmons, of Morgantown,
Mrs. Rose Bay, near Nashville and
Mrs. Margaret Parsley, of Edinburg
and a host of friends and relatives.
Funeral services were conducted at
the Bond Funeral Home yesterday at
2 p.m. by Rev. Jason Skinner. Music
was furnished by Mrs. Blanche Tracy.
Interment was in Green Lawn ceme-
tery. F E B. 13, 1940

Scott Pool
Died Tuesday at the home of his dau.,
Mrs. Charles Ferguson, Franklin, Ind.
A former citizen of Nashville, he was
aged 73 yrs. He was a son of Luther
(continues next column)
**CHARLES RAINWATER**

Charles Rainwater, prominent citizen of Hamblen township, died at 2:15 Monday morning at his home.

Surviving are the widow and six children, and his mother. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at Mt. Olive by Lewis Gray, of near Spearsville. Mr. Rainwater had hosts of friends and will be greatly missed in the neighborhood where he resided. *Feb. 13, 1936*

*Peoga Column, Feb. 13, 1936*

Mrs. Charles Rainwater and her children spent a few days with her mother, Mrs. M. Ziegler.

**Cordia Rainwater Dies of Heart attack**

Mrs. Cordia Rainwater, 80, died of a heart attack at her home in Morgantown, June 24, at 4:00 PM. She was born in Nashville July 1, 1853, the daughter of William and Rachel Parsley. Married to William Rainwater, in Nashville, in 1900, she was a housewife and mother, and will be sadly missed by friends and relatives alike.

Funeral Services will be held in the Methodist Church of Morgantown, of which she was a member, and burial will be at East Hill Cemetery. The services will be held at 2:30 Sunday afternoon, with Rev. Wally officiating, and Clark Funeral Home in charge of burial.

Left to mourn her passing are the husband, William Rainwater, three sons, Roy and Paul of Martinsville and Carl of Indianapolis, and one daughter, Mrs. William Shafter of Indianapolis.

*July 1, 1934*

**EDNA B. RAINWATER**

Edna B. Rainwater, 75, of Morgantown died early last Friday morning in the Morgan County hospital following a lengthy illness.

Born in Brown County on Aug. 18, 1892, she was the daughter of John and Ella (Gurney) Tracey. She was married to Leroy Rainwater in 1918, who preceded her in death.

She had lived in the Morgantown area for 50 years prior to her death and was a member of the Morgantown Methodist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Marybelle Feaster and Mrs. Iva Ellen Long, both of Morgantown and was preceded in death by a son John. Six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Also surviving are seven brothers, including Olin and Clarence Tracy, of Long Beach, Calif.; Virgil and Cleo Tracy, of Indianapolis; Arthur Tracy, Columbus; Roy Tracey, Terre Haute and Jennings Tracy, Louisville.

Funeral services were Sunday at the Clark Funeral Home in Morgantown, the Rev. James Smith, of the Morgantown Methodist Church officiated. Burial was in the East Hill Cemetery.

*April 25, 1958*

**HAROLD DEAN RAINWATER**

Harold Dean Rainwater, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rainwater, was born January 10, 1933 and departed this life April the 11th, being 3 months and 1 day old. He leaves to mourn his death a father and mother, three brothers, Raymond, Glenn and Charles; three sisters, Lena, Emma and Lucille; two grandmothers, Mrs. Emma Ziegler and Mrs. Margaret Parsley and a host of other relatives.

*April 21, 1933*

**JOHN RAINWATER**

John Rainwater, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rainwater of Morgantown, was fatally injured Tuesday evening when hit by a truck driven by Hayden Fieener of Morgantown, as he rode a bicycle from an alloyy to the street in front of the truck.

He, with a group of playmates was playing a follow-the-leader game when the accident occurred. He died at a fractured skull en route to Franklin Hospital. Fieener was not held.

John, who was an only son of Mr. and Mrs. Rainwater, was a member of the seventh grade of the Morgantown Schools and a Boy Scout.

Surviving besides the parents are two sisters, Mrs. Gwynn Feaster and Mrs. Mary Long, both of Morgantown.
Gantown, and the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Tracy, of Helmsburg, and Mrs. Corda Rainwater, of Morgantown.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at the Morgantown Methodist church where he attended services. July 22, 1948

Sinie Rainwater

Mrs. Sinie Rainwater, 83, a resident of Brown County, died Saturday, March 6 in the early morning hours at the Morgan County Hospital following a long illness.

Mrs. Rainwater was born in Shelby County March 12, 1892, daughter of John and Emma Urey Kelley.

In January of 1913, she married Charles L. Rainwater who preceded her in death in February of 1936.

Mrs. Rainwater resided at Route 1, Nineveh, and was a member of the Mount Olive United Methodist Church at Peoga.

Surviving her are two sons, Glen Rainwater of Morgantown and Charles Rainwater of Indianapolis, and three daughters, Mrs. Lena Zimmerman of Morgantown, Mrs. Emma Zimmerman of Lafayette and Miss Lucille Rainwater of Nineveh.

Other survivors include her half brother Charles Ziegler of Peoga, twelve grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren.

Mrs. Rainwater was preceded in death by two sons and three brothers.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 8, at the Myers-Clark Funeral Home in Morgantown.

The Reverend Eugene McClain officiated.

Burial was in the Mount Olive Methodist Church Cemetery at Peoga. March 10, 1976

William Luther Rainwater

William Luther Rainwater, former mayor of this county, died at his home in Morgantown Monday. He had been a resident of Morgantown for thirty-five years. He was born in this county and for many years resided north-east of Nashville. The widow, five children and three grandchildren survive.

Mr. Rainwater was sixty-four years of age. Funeral services were held Wednesday at Morgantown. Aug. 12, 1937

William R. Rainwater

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 21, for William Ray Rainwater of 471 E. Jackson Street, Martinsville, who died at 10 p.m. Saturday, August 18, at Morgan County Hospital.

A native of Morgantown, he was born April 13, 1901, to William Luther and Cordia (Watson) Rainwater.

He married Susan Fawcett in 1928.

A civic leader in Martinsville, Rainwater served as the Morgan County Sheriff from 1937 to 1942, was Clerk of the Circuit Court, a former member of the Martinsville Police Department, former Morgan County Republican Chairman, a 50-year member of the Morgantown Masonic Lodge No.256 and was currently a member of the Morgan County Council.

Survivors include a brother, Carl Rainwater of Indianapolis; a sister, Mrs. William Schaefer of Indianapolis, 3 nieces and 2 nephews.

Two brothers preceded him in death.

Services were conducted at the Neal and Summers Funeral Home in Martinsville with the Rev. John Cheeseman and William Martin officiating.

Burial followed at Green Lawn Cemetery in Martinsville Aug. 22, 1979

Wm. Raymond Rainwater

William Raymond Rainwater of Route 1, Nineveh, passed away last Saturday evening, July 9, after a short illness.

Born in Johnson County July 19, 1913 to Charles and Sinie (Kelley) Rainwater, Mr. Rainwater was 54 years of age at his death.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge at Nineveh, and Masonic services were held Monday evening.

Survivors include his mother, four sisters, Billy and Richard of Indianapolis; Darrel and Eddie at home; one daughter, Mrs. Wanda Shelly of Clayton, Indiana; two brothers, Glenn of Morgantown and Charles of Indianapolis.

Also three sisters, Mrs. Lena Zimmerman, Morgantown; Mrs. Emma Zimmerman, Lafayette; Miss Lucille Rainwater of Nineveh.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 9, at the Clark Funeral Home in Morgantown with Rev. Fred Smith, pastor of the Morgantown Christian Church officiating. Interment was in the Mount Olive Cemetery at Peoga.

July 11, 1968

Noble Raindon

Noble G. Raindon, who was stricken while dining Tuesday, December 5, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lucille Tripler, of Whiteland, died there at 9 p.m.

Funeral rites have been set for 2 p.m. Friday, in the Vandivier-Parsley Funeral Home, with burial following in Green Lawn Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home Wednesday night from 7 to 9 o'clock, Thursday afternoon from 2 until 5 o'clock, at night from 7 to 9 o'clock and until time for the services, Friday, to which they are invited.

The son of the late George W. and Sarah Hobbs Raindon, Mr. Raindon was born in Brown County, on December 10, 1888, and would have observed his sixty-third birthday on Sunday. He attended the schools in Johnson County.

In 1920, he and Gladys Coy were married and six children were born to them.

A life-long resident of Johnson County, he had been a farmer until his retirement.

Those who survive with the widow, are two sons, Dale Raindon, of Morgantown and Charles Raindon of Shelbyville; and three daughters, Mrs. Trisler, Mrs. Doris Jean Pike, of Flat Rock, and Mrs. Betty Norwood of Indianapolis.

Others remaining are 16 grandchildren, a brother, Cecil Raindon of Franklin; and four sisters, Mrs. Otto Davis, Mrs. Charles Catlett, Mrs. Clarence Graves, of Franklin, and Mrs. Albert Clark of Edinburg.


See RARDEN / RAINDON

(Adeline Keller) Ralph

Mrs. Adelle Ralph, highly respected pioneer lady, died at her home in New Billville Wednesday night at 6 o'clock. She was the widow of the late Dr. Alfred J. Ralphly. For many years the family resided in Nash-ville. Mrs. Ralphly was 50 years of age and had been an invalid for six years. She is survived by four children, Clifford T., of Indianapolis; Era Brown, of Logansport; Grace and Gladys, at home. She was a sister of Mrs. Mary Kelp, of Nash-ville.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at New Billville. More about the life of this grand pioneer lady will appear in next week's issue.

April 20, 1934

Funeral services were conducted at New Billville Baptist church last Saturday afternoon by Rev. James Hendricks for Mrs. Adeline Ralphly, who died Wednesday night of last week. Mrs. Ralphly was born in Nashville December 25, 1853 and was