

MISS REBA MERILL KILLED IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT MONDAY

Miss Reba Merrill, head nurse of the Pokegama sanatorium, was instantly killed in an automobile accident, near Center City, last Monday afternoon. The accident occurred on a road intersection where the Sunrise-Center City road crosses the North Branch-Almalund road, about 4:40 p. m.

Miss Merrill was driving, accompanied by her father, George Merrill of Minneapolis. As they approached the road intersection, they met a car coming from the direction of North Branch, on their right. Miss Merrill evidently turned to the left, in an effort to miss the other car, but both cars collided and the Merrill car went into a field and turned over. Miss Merrill was thrown toward the back of the car and partly thru the rear left window and was crushed by the top part of the window as the car came to rest on the left side. Her father, who is 79 years of age, was badly bruised and shaken up but escaped serious injury. A farmer, working in a field nearby, saw the accident and ran to the car where he discovered Miss Merrill pinned down by the car. He was unable to release her and went for help when they were able to lift the car and take her out.

The occupants of the other car were from St. Croix Falls. Their car also turned over and they were quite severely bruised and were taken to a hospital. Both cars were badly wrecked.

Mr. Merrill, although severely shaken up, was able to get to a phone and called Dr. Callahan of the Sanatorium. Dr. Callahan and Clint Boo left for the scene of the accident at once and took Mr. Merrill to the Northwestern hospital in Minneapolis. Miss Merrill's remains were brought to Pine City by Mr. Goodrich, funeral director here.

Mr. Merrill, in speaking of the accident stated their car was only traveling at a speed of between 20 and 30 miles. He said his daughter swung to the left in an effort to avoid a collision but the two cars were too close together to escape.

Mr. Merrill is the former president of the Merrill Abstract Company of Minneapolis

and retired from business some years ago. He was up for a visit and he and his daughter were out for a pleasure ride Monday afternoon. Mrs. Merrill is visiting at the Larry Cummings home at the sanatorium. Miss Merrill is a graduate nurse of the Northwestern hospital in Minneapolis and came to the Pokegama sanatorium 9 years ago and has been the head nurse the past 8 years. She was very efficient and was well liked by folks at the sanatorium and friends in this community. Her sudden death was a terrible shock to her parents and friends.

Miss Merrill was born in Illinois December 7, 1856 and was 42 years, 8 months and 5 days of age. She is survived by her parents and one brother.

Funeral services will be held in Minneapolis today.

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2-25-1995

Many remember the burial in our yard, but they all have the 100ft in different directions. The best location was given to me last summer, when the party said it was located about 100ft from the house on this side (North) of the old path, remember the path real well, as I walk it to & fro, to work at Redington. Path is now over in woods, but remember how it followed the land in our yard. Too bad Dr Elden Johnson, had lived & he & his crew would of excavated the area.

Ann Vack

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Her ashes were buried in our yard, her grave was marked, 40 years from the grave was gone when we moved, on the property in 1954. All excavation. No trace of burial. Later, much too late to learn that it was on other side of path.