

Walter Perry Johnson

by Ben Johnson

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Walter Perry Johnson was the son of Wilson Johnson and Clainda (Mills) Johnson. He was born in Van Wert County, Ohio on October 8, 1870. Walter grew up with only one brother, John. His father, Wilson, was volunteer soldier that helped put down rebellion as a soldier in Company A of the Ninety-Ninth Volunteer Infantry. Once out of the army he became a businessman until his life was cut short and died at the age of 38. Walter's mother was Clainda Mills. His parents married in Ohio July 30, 1868.

Walter was only 8 when his father died. He then graduated high school and attended college at Valparaiso in Indiana. He went to work in the Grist Mill owned by the family in Willshire, Ohio and had active management of the mill property for three years. He then moved to Adams County, Indiana.

Walter married Lulu Beam on March 16, 1893. Lulu was from Michigan, and her father was a soldier in the Civil War. When she was only five, her mother died. She then graduated at Willshire High School. She had learned the trade of milliner and worked at it until her marriage. Together they had eleven children: Helen, Grace, Florence, John and Hester, twins, Edith, Benoit, Harry, Thelma, Dorothy and Mary A..

Walter was considered one of the prominent farmers of Adams County, and invested years and years to the development of a good farm and to the raising of crops and breeding of livestock. He and his family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Willshire and he affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge, of which he was a Charter member, and with Lodge No. 402 of Masons and with Modern Woodmen of America of Pleasant Mills. Walter P. Johnson died in 1947.

Standard History of Adams and Wells Counties, Indiana, Vol. II, John W. Tyndall & Orlo Ervin Lesh;  
Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co, 1918, p. 786-787.

"Roop & Pearce Connections." Roots Web. N.p.. Web. 17 Oct 2013.

<<http://worldconnect.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mpearce&id=I53822>>.