

“Rites Held For L. B. Pike, 76,” Red Oak (Iowa) Express, July 1, 1940; Pike Family Collection, 1877-present, privately held by Karen Pike Zimmerman, Indianapolis, Indiana

rites held for L. B. PIKE, 76

Veteran Mason, Printer and Carrier Died Friday.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at 2:30 at the Boileau and Thomas Garden chapel for Lindsey B. Pike, 76, pioneer resident of Red Oak, who died Friday night at 10:55 at the home of his son, George. Mr. Pike had been in poor health the past three years and was bedfast the last five weeks.

He was born at Maquoketa, Ia., on May 18, 1864, the son of Richard S. and Amelia Pike. Later the family moved to New York state where Lindsey grew to manhood and met his bride. He returned to Red Oak in 1881 and on December 7 of that year the couple was married.

Ran First Proof.

In the early days Mr. Pike was a mason during the summer and fall months and a printer during the winter. He worked on the construction of the old mill and dam at Stennett, the Montgomery county court house, Masonic temple building and other older buildings in Red Oak. He worked on almost all the early newspapers of Red Oak during those days. When Osborne and Murphy conceived the idea of the first art calendar, L. B.

Pike ran the first proof off on the press at the original Independent office.

Previous to that time, however, he had helped build the edifice while working as a mason.

20 Years on Route.

For 20 years Mr. Pike was a rural mail carrier in this county, working out of the Red Oak post office. He was a vice president in the state association of National Rural Letter Carrier's association. During his active years and in the time of his services he had witnessed the rural delivery make its most startling changes. He retired from the government service in 1931.

Rev. Orval Walker conducted the service and Mrs. Walker sang. Serving as pallbearers were Beryl Ferguson, Carl Gustafson, W. E. Hunter, M. B. Harris, H. J. Brannock and F. A. Burdick.

Flowers were in charge of Mrs. Phillip Clites, Mrs. Austin Clites and Mrs. John McCabe.

Leaves 6 Children.

Mr. Pike leaves the following children, Lebourne R. Pike, Howard H. Pike, Van M. Pike, George D. Pike of Red Oak and L. Basil Pike of Ottumwa and Mrs. Paul B. Henry of Long Beach, Calif.; two brothers and two sisters, Harry J. Pike of Toledo, George M. Pike of Wisconsin, Mrs. Charles Van Gorder of Cedar Rapids and Mrs. Ralph Sherman of Boone. His wife and two daughters preceded him in death.

**Mrs. Spencer, 42,
St. Louis, Dies**