

Boy Killed In Fall Down Abandoned Mine Shaft Near Bethalto

A 15-year-old youth was killed yesterday when he fell 90 feet down an abandoned mine shaft at Bethalto.

The victim, Elza Kenneth Neese, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Neese of Fosterburg-Alton road, apparently died of a broken neck, said Deputy Coroner Darrell Smith.

A Bethalto volunteer fireman, Buford Walters, was overcome by gas fumes when he attempted to rescue the boy, and was taken to Wood River Township Hospital. A second fireman, Charles Bennett, finally recovered the body.

A second youth, David Brown, said he and Neese decided to investigate the mine shaft while going to Bethalto. Brown said he had left the shaft because he felt dizzy when he suddenly heard a splash as the other boy hit the shaft bottom. The abandoned mine is on the farm of John Henkhaus.

1950 Aug 15 yr old killed in abandoned mine IL

Clipped By:
usmra_rob
Nov 15, 2024