

FALLS TO DEATH IN QUARRY POOL

Harvey Espenshade, of Paxtang, Drowns in Deep Water Near His Home

Harvey Espenshade, 57-year-old former quarry worker, drowned Saturday night in the deep waters of the old Paxtang Quarry where he once worked as a dynamiter before the quarry was flooded with water.

For more than three hours two score firemen and others searched the cold waters of the old quarry before they recovered his body. Artificial respiration was tried after the body was found but to no avail.

A half-hour after the body was towed ashore, Coroner Howard E. Milliken pronounced him dead.

Boys See Him Fall

A group of boys spread the alarm that a man had fallen into the quarry. The boys were swimming at the southern end of the hole when they saw a man slip from a rocky ledge, along the side where the road runs, and plunge into the water. Alvin Eckenrode, of 2261 Boas street, Penbrook, who was watching the other boys swim, said he saw the man plunge over the thirty-foot wall into the water. Two of the boys, Howard Brown, of 1817 Sycamore street, and Frank Siprana, 1017 South Eighteenth street, along with Eckenrode said they saw the man fall into the water.

They said the body came to the top but sank again. There were no outcries, the boys said.

The youths notified Paxtang Fire Chief Robert McCleaster who in turn called Fire Chief Earl Swartz. The chief sent several pieces of apparatus to the bathing beach for patrol boats and then took about twenty men from different companies to the scene of the tragedy.

His Children Look On

In three boats, the firemen combed the waters of the quarry until after dark. At about 9.15 p. m. Robert Null, Paxtang fireman, brought the body to the surface with grappling hooks.

During the three-hour search for the body, children of Espenshade stood by watching the firemen trying to locate the body. They weren't sure it was their father and were only convinced when the body was brought ashore.

It is believed Espenshade, who lives close to the quarry in the same house he resided in when he worked there many years ago, was returning to his home when the accident occurred.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Updegraff Espenshade; the following children, Edward, of Rahway, N. J.; Mrs. Mary Peifer, at home; Miss Evelyn Espenshade and Miss Helen Espenshade, of Harrisburg, and Roy, Minnie and Dorothy, at home, and three sisters, Mrs. Mary Viens, of Quincy, Mass.; Miss Ella Strawbach, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y., and Mrs. Maggie Martin, Hummelstown.

Funeral services will be held at the Heidel funeral home, 436 Cumberland street, tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The Rev. Dr. Harry B. King, pastor of Paxton Presbyterian Church, will officiate. Burial will be in the Oberlin Cemetery. The body may be viewed at the funeral home tonight from 7 to 9 o'clock.

1938 Jun Harvey Espenshade drowns at quarry PA

Clipped By:
usmra_rob
Dec 27, 2024