JOHNSON, Dr. Edwin Anthony

April 5, 1884
Clay County, South Dakota
October 23, 1969
Viborg

Viborg Enterprise -
October 30, 1969

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD MONDAY FOR DR. E. A. JOHNSON

Funeral services for Dr. E. A. Johnson were held on Monday, Oct. 27, from the First Baptist Church in Viborg, with Rev. K. L. Peterson officiating. Miss Dawn Fikse was the organist, and Mrs. Robert Knudsen, soloist. Pallbearers were: Wilbert Johnson, Roger Long, Harley Christensen, Gregory Benson, Steven Benson, and Jerry Hill. Honorary pallbearers were: Chris Jensen, Axel Christensen, Keith K. Keller, Leslie Petersen, Lauris Olsen, and Eddie J. Madsen.

Viborg Boy Scouts formed an Honor Guard.

Interment was in the Hurley Cemetery.

Edwin Anthony Johnson was born on April 5, 1884, to John and Magdelena Johnson on the family homestead near Wakonda, Dakota Territory, and passed away on October 23, 1969, at the age of 85 years, 6 months and 24 days.

His father passed away in 1886 and some time later his mother married Ole Christopherson. In his early teens he went to live with his brother Alfred and attended high school in Denver and later graduated from the University of Southern California.

He began his dental practice in Lake Andes, S. Dak., in 1909 and then moved his practice to Viborg in 1912.

He was united in marriage to Katherine Bacon on June 30, 1913, and to this union two sons were born. Katherine passed away in 1951.

He was then united in marriage to Henrietta Benson in 1953 and thereby acquired a second family of six.

He retired from his practice in 1962 after 50 years of service to the communty. He was active in many comunity projects. He became a member of the First Baptist Church of Las Angeles in 1905 and continued in active service in the Church in Viborg as S. S. Supt., Deacon, Trustee, and many other committees.

Organizes First Boy Scout Troop

Dr. Johnson organized the first Boy Scout Troop in South Dakota in the year 1917. In 1926 he was honored with the "Silver Beaver" Award, given by the Sioux Area Council for outstanding work in Scouting.

He joined the Masonic Lodge in 1911 and became a Master Mason in 1912, Oriental Consistory in 1917.

He was initiated into the Viborg Odd Fellows Lodge in 1913 and became Past Grand in 1930.

He served as Vice President of the State Izaack Walton League, was active in conservation work, and served on the school board.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife, three brothers, two half-brothers, and a half-sister.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Robert of College Park, Md., and Phillip of Hopewell, N. J.; and from his second family, six children: Russell, Jack and Don Benson, Ruth Johnson, Avis Christensen, and Janis Long; 22 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, and a half-sister, Alice Gray of Spokane, Wash.; and many other relatives and friends.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to all the friends who have been so thoughtful during the time of illness and at the time of loss of our husband and father. Especially, we thank the Boy Scouts, the Masons, and the ladies of the W. B. M. S. The kindness of all is greatly appreciated.

—Mrs. E. A. Johnson
and family