

OLSEN, Martin V.

November 4, 1876
Turner County
September 10, 1951
Sioux Falls

Viborg Enterprise -
September 13, 1951
September 20, 1951

Last Rites Today For M. V. Olsen

Martin V. Olsen passed away in a Sioux Falls hospital on Monday night after an extended illness. He was a pioneer merchant of our city, a former mayor, legislator, postmaster, and active in community affairs. He had been engaged in various business enterprises here for more than a half century, and was well known in the county and state for his many years of service in both branches of the state legislature.

Funeral services are being held today (Thursday) at the Baptist Church at 2 P.M. Obituary will be published in next week's issue of the Enterprise.

Obituary

MARTIN V. OLSEN

Funeral services for Martin V. Olsen, who passed away September 10th at the Sioux Valley Hospital, were conducted from the First Baptist Church on Thursday, September 13th, in charge of the pastor, Rev. I. Fredmund. Mr. Robert Ellingson rendered two selections, accompanied by Mrs. L. J. Rasmussen, who also served as pianist. The pallbearers were Glenn A. Johnson, L. J. Rasmussen, Keith K. Keller, W. O. Knudsen, Fred B. Skola and W. C. Jensen. Interment was at the Baptist cemetery, east of Viborg. Arrangements were in charge of Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Gaddis of the Viborg Funeral Home.

Martin V. Olsen, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lars Peter Olsen, was born in Turner County, Dakota Territory, November 4th, 1876, and after a long illness passed away in the evening of September 10th, 1951.

Mr. Olsen was educated in common schools and at the Sioux Falls Academy, and later attended the University of South Dakota at Vermillion.

In 1902 he was united in marriage to Emma Goodhope, who died in the fall of 1923. To this union was born a son, Lauris. In 1924 Mr. Olsen was married to Adelia Hilton.

"Martin", as he was called by many people, was one of the earliest business men of our community. He was in business here since 1898. He served as Mayor for twenty years, postmaster for twelve years and was also member of the school board and the city council for years. Mr. Olsen was always interested in the welfare of the State and was elected to the South Dakota Legislature, serving as a member of the House for four years and as a Senator for five years.

In his early years he made his decision for the Lord and united with the Baptist Church. In this spiritual fellowship he found many opportunities to serve and during these many years served in various offices, such as usher, clerk, treasurer, trustee and deacon. At his death he was an honorary deacon of the church. He also held membership in the Order of A. F. and A. M., Emounah Lodge.

Mr. Olsen was of quiet nature and still he enjoyed to visit with his friends and the people. He walked among his fellowmen as an upright and honorable man. During his long illness he was patient and hopeful. He has now gone to be with the Master, whom he served so well.

Those who are left to mourn his passing are his son, Lauris, his wife, a brother, C. H. Olsen of Sioux Falls, and a sister, Mrs. John Olsen, also of Sioux Falls. One brother, Loui, and a sister, Mrs. Geo. Stewart, preceeded him in death. Many other relatives and people of this and other communities will miss Mr. Olson and honor his memory.