

Judge Benton Dies After Long Illness

Thomas Hart Benton, 80, died at 2:25 p.m. Wednesday at St. Joseph hospital after a long illness.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the B. W. Thacher Funeral home with the Rev. John Meyer and the Rev. James H. Viggers officiating.

"Judge" Benton, as he was known, was born Aug. 8, 1878 in Boone county, the son of Thomas Harrison and Mary Foley Benton. He was married Oct. 6, 1896 to Dana Stone in Boone county.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Mrs. E. G. Reed of Harrisburg, Mrs. E. M. Powell of Harrisonville and Mrs. John Hofer of Boonville; two sons, I. E. Benton of Boonville and J. S. Benton of Columbia; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Judge Benton joined the Christian church at the age of 15, later becoming affiliated with the Four Square church.

He first engaged in farming in Boone county and for ten years worked at the Hamilton Brown Shoe co. in Columbia, moving to Boonville in 1930. He was employed at the Missouri Training school for four years after which he held positions here as justice of peace, police judge and weighmaster. He retired in 1946.

Judge Benton was a great-great-great nephew of the famous Sen. Thomas Hart Benton, for whom he was named.

Burial will be at Walnut Grove cemetery. Friends may call at the B. W. Thacher Funeral home until time for the rites.