

Tree Kills Frank Edgerly, 72

Frank Edgerly

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merchant seaman.

A native of Nashville, Tenn., he had been a permanent resident of Gilmanton since 1920. He operated a market garden business and carried on two farms, with a total of 185 acres. He was a director of the Farmers' Open Air Market in Manchester, to which he had belonged for nearly 20 years.

Graduating at the Old Gilmanton Academy about 1904, he served from 1910 to 1916 as a teacher in Manitoba; and worked on the Panama Canal from 1916-1920. His brief tour as a merchant seaman was during a "vacation" from his canal duties, and he took a voyage to South America.

Edgerly was married to the former Mary R. Morgan, and the couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in September, 1956.

There are two sons, Albert D. Edgerly, well known Laconia insurance man; and Charles G. M. Edgerly of Fargo, N.D.; two daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Holt of Hudson and Mrs. Margaret Rhodes of Walpole; 16 grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

Mrs. Frank A. Edgerly

GILMANTON—Mrs. Mary R. Lower Gilmanton district (Morgan) Edgerly of Lower Gilmanton died Thursday at Lakes Region General Hospital in Laconia after a brief illness. She was the widow of Frank A. Edgerly.

Mrs. Edgerly was born on Feb. 20, 1883 at Moe's River, N.H. She had been a resident of this town since 1903. She was active in church and community affairs, Mrs. Edgerly was a charter member of the Lower Gilmanton Community Club and a member of the Lower Gilmanton Church.

She is survived by two sons, Albert D. Edgerly of Laconia and Charles G. M. Edgerly of Fargo, N.D.; two daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Holt of Gilmanton and Mrs. E. Everett (Margaret) Rhodes of Walpole; 20 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; and nephews and nieces.

GILMANTON—Frank A. Edgerly, 72, of Lower Gilmanton, was killed almost instantly here early Monday afternoon, when struck by a falling tree.

Death was pronounced due to crushing injuries of the chest and abdomen, by Dr. John S. Argue of Pittsfield, deputized as medical referee by Dr. Earl J. Gage of Laconia.

A woods companion, Miss Rita Santy, 36, of Lyman, helping Edgerly with tree cutting operations, escaped unharmed. Edgerly shouted to her to run, Miss Santy reported, when one of two oak trees being felled suddenly started in the wrong direction.

A heavy gust of wind was believed to have caught tops of two trees — one lodged against the other — and forced the butt of the larger one around, as the local woodsman was sawing his way through to release the first one.

Edgerly and the saw were apparently swung away from the larger 24-inch diameter tree, his companion said, by this revolving action of the butt, directly under the smaller tree. One section of this tree hit Edgerly and pinned him to the ground.

Miss Santy had been attempting to guide the trees in the desired direction, by means of a rope around the larger one, when Edgerly's warning cry caused her to leap out of the way.

Returning to Edgerly, she was powerless to effect his release singlehandedly. Examining him, she could find no pulse, and men ran for aid.

A neighbor, Robert Dawson, at work in a nearby field, helped Miss Santy chop through the tree imprisoning Edgerly.

Meanwhile, Dr. Argue arrived and pronounced the man dead.

The body was removed from the scene, about one-third mile in the woods, and taken to the Perkins Funeral Home in Pittsfield.

Edgerly had led a colorful life, including periods teaching at an Indian school in Western Canada; working in construction of the Panama Canal, and as a

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