

[Kramer, Charles]

OBITUARY
REV. CHARLES KRAMER

The Rev. Charles Kramer of this village, retired Universalist minister, died at his home on Thursday of last week about 5 o'clock. Death was due to a heart attack.

Charles Kramer was born in Reading, Pa., on March 15, 1875, the son of Joseph and Bertha (Rostetter) Kramer. He studied for the ministry at Lombard College in Galesburg, Ill. He was ordained in Girard, Ill. in 1904 and accepted his first parish in that place.

Following that time, he served parishes in Nicholson and Foster, Pa., Central Square, Cicero, the First Universalist church of Bridgeport, Conn., for nine years. He was pastor of the Universalist church in Cooperstown for two periods, from 1916 to 1924 and again from 1933 to 1941 when he retired.

Following retirement, Mr. Kramer maintained his residence in Cooperstown, purchasing the home at 88 Chestnut street, where he died. He remained active in the ministry, and also acquired a wide acquaintance throughout Central New York by his activities in Masonic and Eastern Star circles.

He was married [on] June 23, 1896, to Anna Ritter East in the Universalist Church of Our Fathers, Reading, Pa. Observance of their golden wedding anniversary was held in 1946.

Surviving are Mrs. Kramer and six children: three sons, Ernest C. Kramer of Oneonta, Donald W. Kramer of Binghamton and C. Elwood of Clayton, N. J.; three daughters, Mrs. Douglas C. Walrath and Mrs. Harry I. Apman of Cooperstown, and Mrs. John Barker of Chicago, Ill.

There are also 14 grandchildren, Douglas K. and James O. Walrath, Lois, Gale and Ronald Apman, all of Cooperstown; Philip, Cecily, Nancy, Susan and Carole Kramer of Binghamton; and Barbara, Joan, Ellen, Carol and Charles Warner Kramer of Clayton, N. J.

In addition to his long ministerial service, Mr. Kramer maintained many fraternal interests. He was a member of Otsego Lodge, F&AM, and many years its chaplain, and a past high priest and present chaplain of Otsego Chapter, RAM.

He was also retiring commander of Otsego Commandery, Knights Templar, and had previously served that body as prelate for several years, and was also a member of Ziyara Temple of the Mystic Shrine, Utica.

He was a past district grand lecturer of the Otsego-Schoharie district, OES, serving in 1949, and was entering his 13th year and worthy patron of Otsego Chapter, OES.

He was president of the Otsego Association of Universalists at his death.

Funeral services attended by nearly 250 were held Sunday evening at 8 o'clock from the Ingalls Funeral Home in this village. The services were

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conducted by the rev. Clinton Moulton of Dolgeville, a close friend of Mr. Kramer, and assisted by the Rev. Warren B. Lovejoy of Fort Plain. Attending the funeral were members of the three Masonic lodges, Otsego Lodge No. 138 F&AM, Otsego Lodge RAM and Otsego Commandery, Knights Templar and also Otsego Chapter OES.

Complying with the wishes of Mr. Kramer the body will be cremated.

Otsego Farmer, Cooperstown NY, Fri. 16 Jan 1948

Funeral Home Filled for Kramer Rites

Cooperstown—At funeral rites for the Rev. Charles Kramer, Universalist minister, Sunday night, the Ingalls Funeral Home was filled. A second chapel, to which the services were carried by loud speaker, was utilized for more than 150 members of local Masonic orders and the Eastern Star which attended as a body.

The Rev. Clinton Moulton, a life-long friend, gave the funeral eulogy which included personal references to their long friendship. The Rev. Warren B. Lovejoy, Fort Plain, offered prayer and read appropriate poetic selections.

The body was taken to the Waterville crematory Monday and the ashes will be interred in Lakewood cemetery in the spring.

Four brothers and a sister were unable to attend the funeral. They were Walter Kramer, Lancaster, Pa.; Edward Kramer, Reading, Pa.; Harry Kramer, Newark, N.J.; and Mrs. Ida Hoffman, Newark, N.J.

Attending the services from out-of-town were Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Kramer and four children, Binghamton; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest C. Kramer, Oneonta; Mr. and Mrs. C. Elwood Kramer and four children, Clayton, N.J.

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Transcribed on 17 Feb 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY