

[Cushman, Ernest Keith]

Schuyler Lake
ERNEST KEITH CUSHMAN

The entire community was saddened when it learned that Keith Cushman had passed away at his home Tuesday night about 11:30, after a long illness.

He was born at Schuyler Lake, February 5, 1893, the only son of George and Mary Jane Fitch Cushman, and his entire life had been spent in this community. He attended the old Schuyler Lake High school, Oneonta High school, and Dean University near Boston.

He married Edna Maud Cushman, February 5, 1914. He was a member of the Schuyler Lake Lodge, No. 162, F. & A.M.; Past High Priest of the Richfield Springs Chapter, R.A.M.; Past Commander of Otsego Commandery K.T.; Past Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

He was Supervisor of the Town of Exeter and chairman of the Board of Supervisors one term; he was a member of the R.S.C.S. Board of the Exeter Town Board; of the Cemetery Association; the Fire Department and the Universalist church. As a young man he played with both the Schuyler Lake and Richfield Springs Cornet band[s]—thus he served his village and town in these capacities.

He will be greatly missed, not only in this village where he was known and loved, but through a wide area where his integrity, his friendliness was known and appreciated, and he was held in high regard as a man and a citizen.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Gordon, with whom he was in partnership in the International Farm Implement Company; three grandchildren, Donna Joy, Sharon Ann, and David Gordon Cushman; a nephew, Nathan Corlis Southworth of Springfield; a niece, Mrs. Marjorie Ferry of Troy, and several cousins.

A Masonic service was held at the Ingalls' Funeral Home in Cooperstown on Tuesday night, Carl Green of Cooperstown giving the ritualistic service. Tributes were given by William Bennett of Richfield Springs for the R.A.M.; by William Babb of Richfield Springs for the Commandery K.T.; by Harry Cook for the Council.

About 80 members of the Masonic fraternities attended this service, also the family and friends.

His funeral, which was largely attended, the Universalist church being filled to capacity, was held on Friday at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Arthur Landmesser of the Rensselaer Methodist church officiating. He is a former pastor of the Schuyler Lake Methodist church and a friend of the family for many years. His words were most thoughtful and comforting.

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The bearers were S. B. Eason, M. J. Clarke, Bert Shaul, Asa Sprague, Earl Foster and E. F. Washburn. A guard of honor from the Otsego Commandery attended the casket, as it lay among the many floral tributes sent by sorrowing friends and relatives.

Burial was in the Mercer family plot in Hartwick Seminary.

Among his relatives who attended the funeral from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Southworth of Springfield; Mrs. Marjorie Ferry of Troy; Verne Cushman and George Anderson of Ilion. Many other friends attended from nearby villages which showed the esteem with which Mr. Cushman was held.

Schuyler Lake is the loser by the passing of this upright man.

Otsego Farmer, Cooperstown NY, Fri. 1 Oct 1948

Transcribed on 5 Mar 2010 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY