

[Decker, Edwin V.]

Edwin V. Decker

After suffering for a long time from cancer of the stomach, Edwin V. Decker, one of the county's best known and most beloved citizens passed away at his home in Little Falls early Friday morning. He had been ailing for some time and his friends were aware that the malady with which he was afflicted must prove fatal, but they were loth to think of his passing and are profoundly grieved at his death. Mr. Decker was born in the town of Danube 75 years ago.

"Ed" Decker, as he was familiarly known, was a lovable man and had not an enemy in the world. He was of a genial, jovial disposition, always cheerful and looking for the sunshine rather than the clouds. His popularity made him a favorite in the county, and particularly in the Board of Supervisors where he served for thirteen years giving his constituents faithful and conscientious service.

Mr. Decker represented the town of Danube in the Board of Supervisors 1878-1879, 1887-1888 and the second district of Little Falls in 1897, 1898, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909. He was chairman of the board in 1898 and again in 1903. He was elected president of the Supervisors and Ex-Supervisors Association in 1904 and has held the office continuously from that time. He took much interest in the association and was a regular attendant at the meetings and banquets. He was a republican of the old school and was one of the war horses of the party in the days when republican victories were more common than they are now, with the fads, fallacies and foolishness of the initiative, referendum and recall.

Mr. Decker was a member and very active in the affairs of the Universalist church, and served for a number of years as trustee of the Little Falls church. His lodge affiliation was as a member of Rockton council, Royal Arcanum. In his business and official life Mr. Decker was a man of the strictest integrity. Charitable, liberal in his views and ever thoughtful of others, he possessed an attractive personality that gained him the well wishes and high regard of all who enjoyed his acquaintance. Forty-eight years ago Mr. Decker was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Simms, daughter of Ralph Simms of Danube. She died January 17, 1905, and the relatives now surviving are two sons, Fred and Harry Decker of Little Falls; four sisters, Mrs. A. G. Weatherwax of Newville, Misses Phoebe Ann and Sarah Estelle Decker of Petaluma, Cal., and Mrs. G. B. Neely of Utica; and three granddaughters, Misses Ruth, Agnes and Sarah Helen Decker.

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