

[Diefendorf, Harvey C.]

PUBLISHER DEAD AT FORT PLAIN

Harvey C. Diefendorf Edited Weekly Free Press for Nearly Half Century

FORT PLAIN, Feb. 11.—Harvey C. Diefendorf, 66, a lifelong resident of Fort Plain, died at 11:45 o'clock last night at his home, Mohawk street, this village. He had been in failing health since last summer, when he suffered a paralytic stroke. He had been about until Sunday, Jan. 31, when he was stricken with a heart attack and was confined to his bed since that time.

Mr. Diefendorf was born June 23, 1865, in Fort Plain, the son of Chauncey and Nancy Diefendorf. At an early age he learned the printing trade, and after being employed in the office of the late Horace L. Greene, proprietor of the Mohawk Valley Register for several years, he started his own job printing shop in partnership with his brother, the late Arthur L. Diefendorf.

On April 8, 1884, Mr. Diefendorf organized the fort Plain Free Press, which he continued to publish for 48 years, until early this year, when failing health forced his retirement.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Diefendorf never held public office, except as a member of the board of education of Fort Plain High school for six years.

Mr. Diefendorf was widely known and highly regarded, and his death will bring sincere sorrow to a host of friends.

Surviving are his wife, formerly Miss Nellie T. Smith of Hallsville; one son, Kenneth H. Diefendorf, and one daughter, Miss Hazel M. Diefendorf, all of Fort Plain.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home, the Rev. Rufus H. Dix, pastor of the Universalist church, officiating. Interment will be made in Fort Plain cemetery.

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