Mrs. Marion Hillman Dies at 83

Mrs. Marion Maude Hillman, 83, of Apartment 3, 106 Mechanic street, onetime vaudeville performer, died this morning at 1:25 in the House of the Good Samaritan, where she had been a patient since Sunday.

Her death followed a short illness which involved a kidney ailment. No near relatives survive.

Her only son, Gerald Francis Akins, once prominent as a musician, died July 15, 1967 in Rochester at the age of 60. He at one time was the leader of the Clarkson college band and once played with the Clarkson Melody Boys.

Her husband, Arthur J. Hillman, an insurance man, disappeared at the age of 38 on April 20, 1931, and whether he is alive or not is not definitely known. At the time, he was the St. Lawrence district manager of the Equitable Life Assurance society with offices in Potsdam. Mr. and Mrs. Hillman at the time resided here at 237 Goodale street.

Mrs. Hillman was born in Watertown July 3, 1885, a daughter of Charles Wesley and Frances Evelyn Clobridge Teed, who lived at the Goodale street home. Her father died here May 2, 1907 and her mother on Jan. 19, 1939.

Mrs. Hillman attended the local schools and in early life she was married to Lewis C. Akins of this city. They lived in upper Gotham street. The marriage ended in a divorce and subsequently she, with her young son Gerald, became traveling vaudeville performers in the south.

While performing on the stage, she met Arthur J. Hillman, a native of Lynbrook, L. I., who became the manager of her southern circuit vaudeville act, and they were married in Virginia in 1915.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hillman purchased a traveling tent show which featured motion pictures, as well as vaudeville acts. The show was billed as "The Hillmans." The show performed on a circuit which extended through Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, and was owned and managed jointly by Mr. and Mrs. Hillman.

Eventually, they left show business and came to Watertown to reside.

She was a member of the All Souls Universalist church.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 at the Notham & Fox funeral home. Rev. [Weston A. Stevens, of All Souls Universalist] church, will officiate. Burial will be in Brookside cemetery.

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Transcribed on 8 Apr 2024 by Karen E. Dau of East Rochester, NY