

[Rankins, Eugene]

DEATH OF EUGENE RANKINS

Was a member of the city Fire Department and a worthy young man.

Another sterling and solid young resident of the city passed away yesterday, in the person of Eugene Rankins, who died in his home on Casler St. after a week's illness of peritonitis. Mr. Rankins' fatal illness was superinduced by straining himself. He ruptured a kidney. He took to his bed one week ago today, and sank rapidly to the end. Mr. Rankins was born in Jordanville, on Aug. 8th, 1871, his parents being Norman and the late Mary [should read Cornelia] Rankins. The family came to Little Falls a number of years ago, and when Eugene became old enough he joined the old No. 3 fire company. On the organization of the paid department he enlisted as a call man, and was considered one of the most efficient and reliable men attached to the Dept. He was a fireman because of his love for the work, and not for any monetary consideration. He made fire fighting a study, and his advice was always given weight at a conflagration. As a mark of respect to his memory fire headquarters and the south side hose house will be draped in mourning, and the department will attend his funeral, to be held from the Universalist Church at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon. Mr. Rankins was a machinist by trade and was employed at Stafford & Holt's. He was a member of the Machinists' Union. Mr. Rankins was a man of integrity and honor. Conscientious to a degree and always considerate of others, he made and retained a large circle of friends, and enjoyed the regard of the community, not only because he served it so well as a fireman, but because of his worth as a man and citizen. Mr. Rankins is survived by his widow and an infant son, his father, two brothers, Freeman of Jacksonburg and Wick of Syracuse, and three sisters, Mrs. George Untz and Misses Florence and Maud Rankins of this city.

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Transcribed on 5 Apr 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY