

[Smith, Willett C.]

WILLETT C. SMITH

Willett C. Smith for the last twenty-four years a resident of Potsdam, died suddenly at his home on Market street early Monday morning. Mr. Smith had not been well for some time but, never complained and his death was a great shock. He worked all last week and was about the house Sunday, retiring early on Sunday night.

Mr. Smith was born near Watertown, in the Fields Settlement, Adams Center, May 8, 1887 son of DeEstaing and Nellie Smith. He spent his early life in that vicinity and received his schooling in Watertown and Dexter.

On March 26, 1910 Mr. Smith married Miss Grace Pelo in New York City and in 1913 Mr. and Mrs. Smith came to Potsdam to live and have resided here ever since.

In company with his uncle, John B. Smith, Mr. Smith operated a hardware store here for 15 years, taking over the business of the late W. H. Walling. Later he became an automobile salesman, being employed by the Craig Chevrolet Company for the last two and a half years.

He was a member of the [former] Universalist church and for years has been an ardent Mason.

Of a genial disposition Mr. Smith made friends easily and knew nearly everybody in this section. He was always enthusiastic in his work and was a born salesman

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, two sons, Roswell P. and Reginald F. Smith, by one daughter Miss Rosalie M. Smith of Mt. McGregor, his mother, two sisters, Mrs. Earl Gardner of Watertown, Mrs. Duval Phelps of Chaumont and by one brother George B. Smith of Watertown.

Funeral services were held at the home, Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock, Rev. Dean E. Richardson, pastor of the First Methodist church Potsdam, officiating with interment in Brookside cemetery, Watertown.

*Herald-Recorder, Potsdam NY, Fri. 10 Sep 1937*