

[Sykes, Edwin Gilchrist]

E. G. SYKES NEPHEW OF SLU HEAD

Canton—Edwin G. Sykes, 68, Canton dairy owner, and nephew of a former St. Lawrence University president, died early Saturday morning at the Edward John Noble Hospital here after a long illness.

Death was attributed to a blood clot. Mr. Sykes had been in ill health for the past three years, and had been admitted to the hospital here a month ago.

He was a member of the fourth generation of the Sykes family which settled here in the early days of Canton in the Olin District. He was the nephew of the late Dr. Richard Eddy Sykes, former St. Lawrence University president. His grandfather, Edwin J. Sykes was steward of the university from 1870 to 1877.

Mr. Sykes was born May 12, 1890 at Canton, a son of the late Frederick Arthur and Julia Gilchrist Sykes, and was a grandson of Heber Sykes, a Vermont native who was a Canton pioneer settler.

He was educated in local schools and was graduated from the Canton High School in 1909. He entered St. Lawrence University and graduated as a member of the class of 1913. While in college he was a member of Beta Theta Pi social fraternity.

During the period 1916-1919, he was employed by the V. S. Rubber Company at Malden, Mass., but upon the death of his mother in 1919, returned to Canton and took over the operation of the family farm on the Sykes Road in the Olin District, some three miles north of the village.

In the early 1930's Mr. Sykes built a dairy and milk plant on Gouverneur Street in the village for the local distribution of milk. He opened a milk bar at the plant and supplied milk and dairy products to St. Lawrence University. His business was known as Sykes Farms Dairy.

After a barn burned at the family farm, Mr. Sykes and his family moved to Canton in 1946 to their present East Main Street home. He had furnished employment for many St. Lawrence students working their way through college, putting them to work on the farm or at the dairy milk plant, or dairy bar. Also, he was active in the affairs of the fraternity he belonged to while a college student.

He was a member of the First Universalist Church of Canton and had served as president of the St. Lawrence County Holstein Bull Association.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dorothy O'Neil Sykes, a daughter of the former state senator from St. Regis Falls; three sons, Frederick of Canton; Alan O Sykes of Vienna, Va.; Rev. Richard Eddy Sykes of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and eight grandchildren.

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