

Wednesday, July 1, 1942

## 18-Year-Old Adams County Youth Drowns Last Evening

Paul David Schultz, Graduate of This year's Decatur Catholic High School Drowns in Bluffton Pool; Could not Swim; Resuscitation Efforts Fail

Paul David Schultz, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Schultz of Decatur route four, living a short distance west of Decatur drowned at 9:00 o'clock Tuesday evening in the Si Ota swimming pool a short distance south of Bluffton. It was the first drowning tragedy of the summer in which an Adams County person was involved.

### Could not Swim

Young Schultz could not swim, it was said today. He had been accompanied to the swimming pool by four friends from Decatur, Robert Briede, Paul Smith, James Holthouse and Harold Keller. Schultz told his companion that even though he could not swim he would attempt to wade to a raft a few rods out in the water. Before reaching the raft he came to a deep step-off and plunged into fifteen feet of water. He never made an outcry, his companions said, and they did not realize what had happened until they missed him.

His companions immediately started to search for the young man but it was not until 30 minutes later that his body was found. Young Briede located the body and it was brought to the surface. Efforts to revive him were kept up for several hours, but to no avail.

Paul David Schultz was born April 16, 1924, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Schultz. He was a graduate of this year's class of the Decatur Catholic High School. He was a member of the St. Holy Name Society.

Surviving are the parents, three sisters and four brothers. They are Sister M. Celesta of Elmhurst, Ill.; Sister M. Christine and Sister M. Philomine, both of Mary's Catholic Church and the Fondulac, Wisconsin; George, Childersburg, Alabama; Leo, Decatur and Joseph and Carl, both at home.

The funeral will be held at 9:00 o'clock Friday morning at the St. Mary's Catholic Church, Rev. J. J. Seimetz officiating. Burial will be in the Decatur Catholic Cemetery.

**Adams County Historical Museum**

**1942A Scrapbook, Image 32**

**Transcribed by Jim Cox**

Friday, July 3, 1942

Schultz Funeral Is Held This Morning  
Drowning Victim is Buried This Morning

Funeral services for Paul Schultz, 18, who lost his life Tuesday night in a Bluffton swimming pool, were held this morning at the St. Mary's Catholic Church with the Rev. Joseph J. Seimetz officiating.

The service was reportedly one of the largest attended of any ever held in the church. Scores of friends of the youth and his family, many of whom had viewed the lad's body at the home, thronged to the church for the last rites.

Six of the boy's classmates and friends served as pallbearers. They were Robert Briede, Harold Keller, Paul Smith, James Holthouse, Jerome Rumschlag and Joseph Miller. The first four were his companions on the ill-fated swimming party.

A long line of autos formed the funeral procession from the home to the church and then to the St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery for the burial. City police, under the direction of chief James Borders aided in guiding the funeral procession through traffic.

The young man, a recent graduate of Decatur Catholic High School, drowned Tuesday night when he dropped into a 15-foot "stepoff" in the Psi Iota Xi swimming pool near Bluffton.

**Adams County Historical Museum**  
**1942A Scrapbook, image 52**  
**Transcribed by Jim Cox**