

## O. R. Easterday is Dead at 56 Portland Industrialist Ill One Month

Portland, Mar. 20 –

Orville R. Easterday, 56, treasurer and co-founder of the Jay Garment Company, one of Portland's leading industries, died this morning at 5:30 o'clock at his home here following a month's illness of heart disease. He was a lifelong resident of Portland.

Surviving are the widow, one daughter, Mrs. Dwight Young, his step-mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Easterday and five grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the First Presbyterian Church of which he was a member, Rev. T. O. M. Willis, the pastor, will officiate and burial will be in Green Park Cemetery with the Masonic graveside services. The body will be taken to the church one hour before the service and will lie in state up to that time at the Baird Funeral Home.

Mr. Easterday graduated from the Portland High School with the Class of 1902 and attended Sanderson Business College at Indianapolis. He was employed first as substitute clerk in the local post office later accepting a clerkship in the First National Bank. He advanced rapidly and at the death of John Mills, cashier of the bank, he was selected for the vacancy.

In August of 1921, Mr. Easterday and his associate, J. Arthur Williams, founded the Jay Garment Company, the growth of which in the past 10 years is a story equaled by few in the annals of American Industry.

He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, the Rotary Club, the Jay Lodge No. 87, F&AM, and the Fort Wayne Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

**Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette (IN); March 21, 1940**

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Funeral services for Orville R. Easterday, 56, treasurer and co-founder of the Jay Garment Company, who died Wednesday at his home at Portland, will be held Friday at 3 pm at the First Presbyterian Church at Portland. Burial will be in Green Park Cemetery in that city.

**Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette (IN); March 22, 1940**

**Both contributed by Jim Cox**