

## Death Summons William Smith Friday Morning

William R. Smith, 69, prominent Portland business and civic leader, passed away at the Jay County Hospital Friday morning at 8:45 o'clock following an extended illness.

Mr. Smith came to Portland in 1929 and founded the Rockledge Products Company two miles west of this city. This firm has been one of the best known stone businesses in the area for more than twenty years. Prior to 1929 he conducted a hardware and implement business at Chattanooga, Ohio, for fifteen years and was president of the Chattanooga Bank for several years.

He was born at Dayton, Minnesota, October 24, 1880, son of the late Alexander and Margaret (Howe) Smith. He was united in marriage in 1903 to Cora A. Hisey, who survives with three sons, Murhl Smith of Montpelier and Ray and William, Jr., of Portland; two daughters, Mrs. Fred Miller and Mrs. Lee McDaniel, both of Portland;; eight grandchildren; two half-brothers, Edgar Smith of Toledo and Alexander of Helena, O., and one half-sister, Mrs. Flora Weaver of Toledo, O.

Mr. Smith was a member of the Presbyterian Church at Dayton, O., Jay Lodge No. 87 F. & A. M. and the Scottish Rite at Fort Wayne. Until his retirement on account of ill health, he was an active member of the Portland Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce and the Jay County Fair Association and had served as president of all of these organizations. He also served as a member of the Indiana State Fair Board for several years.

The body was removed to the Baird funeral home where friends may call. Funeral services will be held at the Baird Chapel Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in charge of Rev. Edward Clarke McCance. Interment will be at Green Park cemetery and Masonic services will be conducted at the graveside.

**Portland Commercial Review, Jay County, IN; June 16, 1950**