

Uncle Charley Block Dies Suddenly Sunday
Was Wealthy Retired Farmer; A Native
Of Germany; Funeral Rites Tuesday
The Broadlands News
January 10, 1935 page 1

A. T. Block, prominent and wealthy farmer, passed away suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alvin Zenke, in Broadlands, last Sunday evening at about 9:00 o'clock.

Mr. Block had been in failing health for several years, but his recent illness was of only a few days duration, having been down town as late as last Friday to look after his business affairs. He had a heavy cold at that time which soon developed into pneumonia and caused his death.

Uncle Charley, as he was familiarly called by his friends, was a man of great vitality and he always kept busy at something even after moving to town. Uncle Charley was criticized by some for working so hard after he became aged. But, those who criticized failed to realize that Uncle Charley was happiest when he was busy — and that is what counts. In other words, he lived his life in his own way.

Mr. Block was one of the wealthiest men of the community. Besides his large land holdings, he owned a number of dwelling properties and several business houses in the village of Broadlands. Mr. Block did much to build up Broadlands and make it what it is today.

Short funeral services were held at the home of Alvin Zenjke last Tuesday afternoon at 1:30, and at the St. John's Evangelical church, northwest of Broadlands, at 2:00 o'clock. Rev. George Gerhold, of Franklin, Ill. A former pastor of the church, had charge of the services. Music was furnished by a quartet composed of Mesdames Emil Schumacher, Howard Mohr, Philip Limb and Frank Frick, with Mrs. Walter Witt presiding at the piano. The casket bearers were Philip Limp, Karl Partenheimer, John Bahlow, A. S. Maxwell, Henry Kilian, Sr., Frank Frick.

Burial was in the St. John's Evangelical cemetery, with Dicks Brothers, local undertakers in charge.

August Theodore Block, son of John F. and Johanna C. Block was born in Berlin, Germany, Oct. 22, 1847. He came to America with his parents in the year of 1871 at the age of 24 years. His father died the following year and his mother spent the rest of her life with him.

He was married to Caroline Kagels in 1878. Their first home was near Sidney. To this union three children were born. A son who died in infancy, a daughter Hattie Hulda, and a son Paul August Block, who preceded him in death in November, 1927.

In the year of 1899 he moved on what is known as the Block home place southwest of Broadlands. In 1908 he moved to the town of Broadlands, where he spent the rest of his life.

He was confirmed when a boy in St. John's Evangelical church and was a faithful member all his life.

Five years ago, on Dec. 17, 1929, his wife was struck by a train and instantly killed. Since then he has made his home with his only daughter.

He died after a few days illness of pneumonia, Jan. 6, 1935, at the age of 87 years, 3 months and 15 days.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Hattie Zenke of Broadlands; three grandchildren, Mrs. Maude Luedke, Alfred Zenke, and Mrs. Hilda Seider, all of Broadlands. Five great-grandchildren Jean Paul, Marion and Hope Celestine Zenke, Richard Lloyd Seider, and Paul Robert Luedke. He is also survived by one brother, Albert Block, of Champaign. His sister, Ms. Mary Block, preceded him in death in 1923.

1932
Revision
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STATE OF ILLINOIS
Department of Public Health—Division of Vital Statistics
COUNTY CLERK'S RECORD

STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH
County of Champaign Registration
Dist. No. 91
Village Broadlands Township Primary Precinct 4157
(Cancel the three terms not applicable—Do not enter "R. R.," "R. F. D.," or other P. O. address.)
Street and Number, No. _____ St. _____ Ward, _____ (Consecutive No.) _____ Hospital, _____
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 30 yrs. mos. da. How long in U. S. if of foreign birth 63 yrs. mos. da.

2. FULL NAME August Theodore Block
(a) Residence: No. _____ St. _____ Ward, _____ (If non-resident give city or town and State)
(Usual place of abode)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX Male 4. COLOR OR RACE White 5. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (write the word) Widowed
6a. If married, widowed, or divorced, HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of Caroline Block
6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) _____
7. AGE Years 87 Months 2 Days 15 If LESS than 1 day, hrs. or min. _____
8. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. Retired Farmer
9. Industry or business in which work was done, as silk mill, saw mill, bank, etc. Agriculture
10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year) 1928 11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation 33
12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Berlin (State or country) Germany
13. NAME John F. Block
14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Berlin (State or country) Germany
15. MAIDEN NAME Johnna Gersbach
16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Berlin (State or country) Germany
17. INFORMANT Alvin Zenke (personal signature with pen and ink)
P. O. Address Broadlands, Ill.
18. PLACE OF BURIAL, Cremation or Removal St. John Evangelical 19. DATE Jan 8, 1928
Cemetery Cyers Location _____ (Township, Road Dist., Village or City)
County Champaign State Illinois
20. UNDERTAKER Forest A. Dicks ADDRESS Dicks Bros. (personal signature with pen and ink) (Firm name, if any)

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) Jan 6, 1928
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Jan 5, 1928 to Jan 6, 1928
I last saw him alive on Jan 6, 1928; death is said to have occurred on the date stated above, at 4 P. M.
*The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows:
Lobar Pneumonia Date of onset 5 Jan
Other contributory causes of importance: _____
23. Was an operation performed? No Date of _____
For what disease or injury? _____
Was there an autopsy? No
What test confirmed diagnosis? Physical
24. If a communicable disease; where contracted? _____
Was disease in any way related to occupation of deceased? No
If so, specify how: J. A. Dicks M. D.
(Signed) Broadlands, Ill.
Address _____
Date Jan 7, 1928 Telephone 30
*N. B.—State the disease causing death. All cases of death from "violence, casualty, or any undue means" must be referred to the coroner. See Section 10, Coroner's Act.
25. Filed Jan 8, 1928 C. A. Smith Registrar.
P. O. Address Broadlands, Ill.

WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFAADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
NOTE: Local Registrars must make on this form a complete and accurate copy of the Original Certificate, and forward this copy to County Clerk on 10th day of each month. Omissions or abbreviations must not be made. Local Registrars must not issue this form to Undertakers, Physicians or others, but must use it only for preparing County Clerk's (or Local Registrar's) Copies.
28. Has decedent ever served in military or naval service of U. S.? No

I, MARK SHELLEN, duly elected, qualified, and acting County Clerk of Champaign County, Illinois, and keeper of the records thereof, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original record of DEATH of August Theodore Block

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 18th Day of October, A.D. 2001.



(NOT OFFICIAL
WITHOUT
RAISED SEAL)

Mark Shellen
COUNTY CLERK
Wm. M. Shellen
DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK