

ACUTE APPENDICITIS CLAIMS LIFE OF JACK WAITMAN THURSDAY

Veteran of World War
Succumbs in His
Early Prime

4-1927
Jack Waitman, son of Mrs. Bud Waitman, and one of Wheatland popular young business men, died from the effects of acute appendicitis at about 8:30 a. m., Thursday. While Mr. Waitman's death was a distinct shock to his family and many friends, his death was not unexpected as it was evident the odds were heavily against him for several days. Shortly before his death his temperature had climbed to 108 degrees.

Mr. Waitman was 31 years of age at the time of his death and had been a resident of Wheatland at intervals for twenty years.

Jack was a veteran of the World War and saw service in some of the heaviest engagements participated in by the American forces. He was badly gassed at Chateau Thierry, the first major operation engaged in by the Americans. He never fully overcome the effects of this disability incurred on the firing line. He joined the World War forces as a member of Company D, Wyoming National Guard which was stationed in Wheatland at the time America entered the war. Some years prior to the war he saw two years service in the U. S. Navy.

Rev. Murphy, pastor of the Baptist church at Torrington, a personal friend of the deceased, will officiate at the burial, which will be in charge of the Watson Mortuary.

The deceased is survived by his wife, mother, brother, Jerry and uncle, Bud, all of whom reside in Wheatland, besides two sister, Mrs. James Dower, of Sunrise and Mrs. J. E. Line of Rapid City, S. Dak.

The funeral will be held in Wheatland at 2 p. m., Sunday.

Jack Waitman's Funeral Largest In Town's History

Knights of the Ku Klux
Klan in Charge of the
Ceremonies

4-1927
Exceeding in joint attendance and ceremonial impressiveness any funeral ever witnessed in Wheatland, the last rites for Jack Waitman, prominent young Wheatland business man, battle scarred veteran of the World War and a member of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan were held here Sunday afternoon, following his death the previous Thursday.

The funeral procession moved slowly forward from the Methodist church at three o'clock and when all cars bearing the mourners, Klansmen, service men and a host of friends had moved into line, the procession covered a distance of two miles or more. An almost endless stream of automobiles followed the hearse to the grave.

At the M. E. church, the largest religious edifice in the city, where services were conducted by Rev. Murphy, pastor of the Baptist church of Torrington, every seat was occupied, the entrance was jammed and a hundred or more people were unable to gain admittance. Some of these people remained in cars parked for blocks around the church in every direction while the services were in progress.

Knights of the Ku Klux Klan to the number of 130 from this and adjoining communities, wearing full regalia, were in charge of the ceremonies at the church. At the cemetery, Jack's buddies who saw service in the World War with him dropped the final curtain over the remains of their friend and comrade as a firing squad saluted and Marvin Jones sounded "taps" on his trumpet as the flag-draped casket was lowered in the grave.

With the passing of Jack Waitman, another veteran of Chateau Thierry, the village in France at the edge of which American troops had their first taste of terrific warfare, was listed among the "missing". Jack was gassed during the memorable engagement. He was one of the first four men of Wheatland to enlist for service in the World War.