

JOE ROUTON

FINAL TRIBUTE PAID BY MANY TO

Large Concourse of Friends Attends Saturday Funeral

At Bevill Cemetery

Many Leading School Men and Others from Afar Pay Respects

Late School Superintendent Praised for Efforts, Achievements

Attended by the largest concourse of people ever assembled at a funeral

in Henry Co., rites for Joe S. Routon, 65, were held from the home at Routon Saturday afternoon, conducted by Rev. D. T. Spaulding, Baptist minister and one of his close county official associates.

Burial was made in Bevill Cemetery four miles south of Paris on the South Highway with Spicer & McEvoy, funeral directors in charge.

Mr. Routon was an ardent member of the Baptist church and worshiped with the Spring Hill congregation.

Mr. Routon died at his home Friday morning following an illness of only four weeks. He was first taken with influenza. High blood pressure was soon asserted and he suffered a slight stroke which subsequently proved to be fatal.

Born and Reared Here

A native of Henry County, son of the late Stephen P. and Mary Catherine

Routon, distinguished pioneer family, Joe Senter Routon was born January 4th, 1867 at Routon, the community in which he lived his entire life among immediate relatives and friends. Educated in the public school of town and county, he spent 15 years as a public school

teacher and in 1895 was elected county superintendent of public instruction and served for four years. Again in 1903 he was elected to the office and was held it continuously through various election periods by the school board, the county court and at the ballot box until his death. He was a compelling factor in the local attainment of state standards in school conduct and operation and his name was been inseparably identified with school progress here all during this period. Under his direction school advance steadily widened until all state approved modern methods were affected, with adequate school buildings provided throughout the county, consolidated school plants built, and modern motor transportation inaugurated. The existing school system here reflects the high-minded and broad-versioned principles of his handiwork, and he attained a high place in the state school realm by his achievements and conservativeness.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Minnie Wimbish Routon to whom he was married in 1894; a daughter, Miss Helen Routon,

high school teacher in Corbin, Ky.; two sons, Everett, farmer, and Earl Routon who is teaching at Vanderbilt University;

three brothers, Horace and Quince of Routon and S. Jim Routon of Paris; and a sister, Miss Gertie Routon of Routon.

Prominent Citizens and Pallbearers

Active pallbearers were A. G. McGehee, C. B. Smith, W. D. Cooper,

W. J. Brite, R. H. White, and John Richardson. Honorary pall

bearers were Ollie Watkins, Cooper Miller, Dr. George McSwain, Charlie

Trevathan, Smith Grable, Guy Presnell, Dr. A. A. Oliver, Billie Lankford, Marvin McSwain, Claude Bushart,

J. W. Ligon, J.D. Morris, J. C. Rainey, John R. Rison, Sr., Will Dale, Charlie Porter, Rainey T. Wells, Charlie

Hastings, J. A. Roberts, J. W. Cannon, D. M. Clements, P. L. Harned, W. A. Bass, D. T. Barnhill, R.

B. Chrisman, C. H. Parks, Fred Chunn, T. C. Rye, Clinton Matthews, J. N. Bushart, Henry Morton, J. W.

Wiggs, C. C. Toler, Chesley Alexander, Fred Blanton, H. L. Smith, W. J. Smith, W.W. Chunn, Chas. Pullen,

W. E. Morgan, John Richardson, Jr.,

C. S. Albritten, T. E. Guthrie, Ivan Dale, J. W. Travis, W. R.

Lasater, Harmon Eaker, C. V. Ezell, J. M. Reynolds, S. T. Doty.

Schools in Paris and throughout the county were closed for the funeral

day, and on the proclamation of Mayor Frank B. McNeill, Paris stores closed for ten minutes during the

funeral hour. The flag in court park was at half-mast, and all public offices in the courthouse were

closed for the

early afternoon with officials attending the funeral in a body. Many and elaborate floral offerings from

far and near otherwise attested

the esteem in which Mr. Routon was held.

Out-of-town

people who were here for the last rites were Dr. Rainey T.

Wells, head of the state normal at Murray; Dr. William Mason of the Mason Memorial Hospital at Murray, and Miss Lillian Watters and Miss Nettie Doeppner of Murray; Rev. and Mrs. L. A. Byrd of Henning;

Mr. and Mrs. Lee B. Walton and Rev. Perkins of McKenzie;

Misses Vera and Catherine Routon of Jackson; Miss Lillian Penick and Mrs. and Mrs. Orville Sullivan of Martin; Mr. and Mrs. Hershel Smith and Miss Nell Williams of Memphis; Mrs. Isabel of Bruceton; Prof. Edwards, county superintendent of Carroll-co at Huntingdon; Prof. Beecher Browning of Nashville; Prof. G. E. Freeman and Prof. T. W. Hunter of the state department of education at Nashville; and Mr. and Mrs. Will Jones of Hazel, Ky.