

# AV Old-Timer William G. Ritter Coronary Victim, Services Held

Masonic rites services were conducted yesterday (Saturday) for Antelope Valley old-timer William G. Ritter, 78, at Mumaw Funeral Home, in Lancaster. Interment followed at the family plot in Palmdale Cemetery.

Mr. Ritter succumbed to heart failure, Oct. 15, without prior illness. He was born Oct. 19, 1892, in Nebraska, and moved to the Antelope Valley with his family two months later, in December, 1892. He and his wife, the former Mina Bell Hein whom he married

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June 27, 1921, have made their home at 810 East Ave. Q-9, in Palmdale, many years.

A "walking fount of information" on the valley he loved, Mr. Ritter was a familiar sight to Valley Press personnel as he extended his love of gardening to the flowerbed on the VP's parking lot corner across the street from his home.

His vocations and avocations included being a builder, apiarist, and taxidermist. He was a member of the Lutheran Church; Lancaster Lodge 437, F&AM, whose officers conducted the funeral ceremony; the Palmdale Kiwanis Club, where he was a member more than 40 years; and the Kern-Antelope Historical Society.

Just last Sunday he was

among the Valley Old-Timers honored at the annual Old-Timers Picnic, in Lancaster, where the accompanying photo was taken with a group of his many friends.

In addition to his widow, Mr. Ritter is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Jerry R. McKelvey, son-in-law Webb McKelvey and grandson, Chris R. McKelvey, all of Fillmore, Calif.; grandson, Mike W. and Mrs. McKelvey, of Adelaide, South Australia; and two sisters, Mrs. William (Frieda) Redman, of Lancaster; and Mrs. Clara Ikler, of Palmdale.

