

During the First World War he was a bayonet instructor with the commission of First Lieutenant. Early in his colorful career he was variously employed as a vaudeville entertainer and a professional football player.

For several years he was engaged in banking and the real estate business in Montana. Later, he came to Long Beach, where for many years he was active in oil development in the Signal Hill area, numbering among his friends many of the early oil pioneers in the Long Beach area.

His marriage to Mary Johnston took place in Long Beach on May 5, 1925. A daughter, Mary, was born to this union.

He came to Palmdale in 1940, where he established a motel and restaurant, as well as a dude ranch at his ranch south of the Palmdale reservoir. He was also engaged in the real estate business.

His death followed an illness of many months, during which he was under treatment at Sawtelle. He leaves, besides his wife, Mary, a daughter, Mrs. Mary Cowley; two grandchildren, Mary Catherine and Martha Jeanne; a brother, George, of Louisville, Ky., and a sister, Mrs. Thomas E. Killean of St. Louis; and a legion of friends here and elsewhere.

Rosary was recited last Friday, December 5, at 7 p.m. at the Courson home. Requiem mass was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Church in Lancaster at 9 a.m. Saturday, and interment followed at Palmdale cemetery.

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