

# Death Takes Verne Slout

## Vermontville Man Long Operated Tent Show

Vermontville — L. Verne Slout, 61, who for 29 years operated the Slout Players, a tent show, died unexpectedly of a heart attack about 10:30 Tuesday night in his home here.

Mr. Slout closed his tent show, the last one in Michigan, in 1953. For the last 10 winters he and his wife, Orrie, managed antique shows in several Michigan cities, including Grand Rapids and Lansing, and in many Texas cities.

### Taught for One Year.

He first became interested in tent shows when he was 8 years old when a woman gave him a camping tent. After completing high school in Vermontville and teaching in this vicinity for one year, he joined the Lillian Lyons Stock Co. of Muir. He later went



L. VERNE SLOUT.

to Albion college and then participated in lyceum and chautauqua work. In World war I he served in the 310th engineering corps and for a while was stationed in northern Russia.

In 1924 he went on tour with his own show, the Slout Players. That tent show toured principally in Michigan, Missouri, Illinois and Kansas. He wrote 15 comedies for his own show and these were staged by several other tent shows.

### Known for Part of Toby.

One of the principal characters for which he was known in the tent show business was that of Toby, a rustic yokel.

In winter months for several years he and his wife conducted theater workshops in many larger schools and colleges.

Born in Vermontville, he lived here all of his life and always assisted in the promotion of the annual Vermontville Maple Sirup festival.

Surviving are his wife, Orrie; his mother, Mrs. William Slout of Vermontville, and two children by a former marriage, William of New York city and Mrs. William Grube of Detroit, and three grandchildren.

The body is at the Otto funeral home here.

Funeral services will be held at 2 Friday in the Methodist church. Burial in Kalamo township cemetery.

### IN MEMORY

Cecil H. Baldick

### BORN

May 9, 1901

### DATE OF DEATH

September 22, 1955

### SERVICES FROM

The First Congregational Church  
Sunday, Sept. 25, 1955 2:30 p. m.

### CLERGYMAN OFFICIATING

Rev. F. Willard Kime

### FINAL RESTING PLACE

Woodlawn Cemetery  
Vermontville, Michigan

### Military Services

Conducted by  
Childs - Demeray Post 222

### Casket Bearers

George Hall John Hokanson  
Ray Anderson Russell Kilpatrick  
Wilbur Walsh Dale Northrup

Funeral services for Mrs. Nellie Granger McDonald were held Monday from the Pray funeral home. She was the mother of Elwin Granger of Vermontville.

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