

Greene County Obituary Index 1817-1984

INTRODUCTION:

This index covers over 74,000 death notices, obituaries, memorial notices, resolutions of respect and other articles relating to the deaths of Greene County area individuals which were found in the pages of the various Greene County area newspapers found on microfilm at the Cornerstone Genealogical Library in Waynesburg.

It was not until the late 1800's that obituaries became common in the newspapers of the county. Prior to that time, most deaths were noted in simple death notices with few details other than the date and place of death, or in the local or community news columns. Occasionally, an individual's death was noted in a resolution of respect published by an organization of which the deceased was a member.

In those earlier, pre-1885 issues, the local and community news columns were searched for articles relating to the deaths of Greene County individuals. Most often, those were little more than a line or two mentioning the individual's death, and frequently the exact date was not mentioned.

In those issues after 1885, the community news columns were not searched, and items found there were only included if they happened to be noticed in the search for obituaries.

It is likely that some obituaries or notices of death were missed in the search, and while this index is intended to aid researchers in searching for the death dates of individuals, it should not be considered the last word for the researcher. Where a death date is known, the researcher should scan the pages of the issues around that date for an article or obituary relating to the individual.

Each entry contains the subject's name, the date of the newspaper in which the obituary, notice or article was found and the newspaper in which it was found. After 1937, funeral notices were often published in the same issue of the Democrat-Messenger as the obituary (or in the following day's issue). These are not included in this index unless there was no accompanying obituary found.

The newspaper abbreviations used and the issues indexed so far are as follows:

RP - Waynesburg Republican - 1859-1933, 1956-1979

DC – Waynesburg /Greene Co. Democrat - All issues on microfilm 1882-1889, 1913 (scattered issues) & 1890-1912

DM - Democrat Messenger - 1914-1958, 1980-1984

DO - Morgantown New Dominion - 1877-1882

MS - Waynesburg Messenger - All issues on microfilm, 1817-1897, scattered issues

IN - Waynesburg Independent - All issues on microfilm, 1903-1917, scattered issues

SM - Waynesburg Semi-Weekly Messenger - All issues on microfilm, 1901-1912, scattered issues

TB - True Blue - All issues on microfilm, 1886-1887, scattered issues

The following Obituaries are available for viewing on our computers and are also available for purchase on CD-ROM in the library:

Waynesburg Republican Obituaries Vol. 1 1859-1933 (RP)

Waynesburg Republican Obituaries Vol. 2 1956-1975 (RP)

Waynesburg Democrat-Messenger Obituaries 1931-1958 (DM)

Waynesburg /Greene Co. Democrat Obituaries 1882-1913 (DC)

Please note that an obituary may have been missed in the preparation of the CD's, and therefore the original microfilm should be used.