

**JESS DOUGLAS FARMER OBT.**

b. 17 February 1898 – d. 2 October 1960

TN Pvt Army WWI

md Delia Guthrie, June 17, 1926

s/o Dr. Winfield Scott Farmer & Martha Frances Vaden

J. Douglas Farmer, 62, Buffalo Valley, Dies:  
The Citizen, Cookeville, TN, Tuesday, 4 October 1960



Funeral services for J. Douglas Farmer, 62, were held Tuesday morning at 9:30 o'clock at the Buffalo Valley Presbyterian church with a former pastor, Rev. Ralph C. Arbaugh of Donelson, officiating. Burial was in the Mimosa cemetery in Lawrenceburg, TN.

Mr. Farmer died Sunday of a heart attack which he suffered at his home in Buffalo Valley. His parents were the late Dr. W. S. (Winfield Scott) and Frances Vaden Farmer. He attended the Putnam county schools, Jefferson Academy in Mississippi, and West Point Military academy, New York. Studied engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Later he accepts a

position with the State highway department with which he was connected for 20 years.

Survivors include his wife, Delia Guthrie Farmer, a sister, Mrs. M. Frank Wooten Jr. (Estelle Farmer) of Orlando, Fla.; a brother W. C. (William Benjamin Clay) Farmer of Buffalo Valley, route 1. Three aunts, Mrs. W. W. Jared, Buffalo Valley, Mrs. J. C. Elrod, Murfreesboro, Mrs. Eura Burch, Plaqua, Okla., and a number of nieces and nephew.

Hooper and Huddleston funeral home in charge.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

**DR. WINFIELD SCOTT FARMER,  
HEAD OF THE CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL DIES**

Born and Reared in This County, And Practiced Medicine Here For a Number of Years

**Dr. W. (Winfield) Scott Farmer**, who for twenty-two years was superintendent of Tennessee's Central State Hospital for the Insane, died Friday after a long illness.

Three months ago he gave up active work at the hospital because of failing health and had been confined to Vanderbilt Hospital, Nashville, since July 1.

Dr. Farmer was a former resident of Cookeville, where he practiced medicine for a number of years.

He devoted a great amount of his time and energy to the improvement of the Central Hospital for the Insane. Through his efforts a building for the criminally insane was secured for the institution. He was widely known as a psychiatrist, having participated in a nation-wide study of legal psychiatry with nineteen other outstanding specialist several years ago. He aided in formulating the policies of the American Psychiatrist Association on legal psychiatrist Association on legal psychiatry. While head of the state institution Dr. Farmer was called in on more than 700 criminal cases as an authority. His work with the courts was done without added expense to the state.

He gave freely of his time, volunteering his services without remuneration.

Dr. Farmer served as an instructor in psychiatry for many years on the Vanderbilt University faculty. He conducted clinics for Vanderbilt medical students and students of psychology in the academic school. Students from Peabody, colleges in Middle Tennessee, and high schools in Nashville and surrounding area attended his clinics.

After graduating from Vanderbilt Dr. Farmer began the practice of medicine in his native county. When he went to Nashville he joined the McKendree Methodist Church, the Nashville Council of Social Service Agencies, and the Exchange Club.

He was a member of the American Medical Association; a fellow of the American psychiatrists' Association; a charter member of the Middle Tennessee Medical Association, of which he was past president; a member of the Tennessee State Medical Association, the Upper Cumberland Medical Society, and the Nashville Academy of Medicine; and was elected last year to honorary membership in the Tennessee-Mississippi Peace Officers' Association.

Funeral services were held in the chapel of the Central State Hospital at 3 p.m. Saturday, conducted by Dr. King Vivion, pastor of McKendree Methodist Church, assisted by the Rev. Pickens Johnson, pastor of the Arlington Methodist Church.

Dr. Farmer is survived by **his wife, Mrs. Ollie McGinness Farmer**; one daughter, Mrs. Frank Wooten, of Nashville; two sons, Clay Farmer of Buffalo Valley, and Douglas Farmer of Nashville; three sisters, Mrs. R. L. Kerr, and Mrs. W. W. Jared of Buffalo Valley, and Mrs. Emma Burch of Prague, Okla., and several nieces and nephews.

**His first marriage was to Miss Fannie Vaden.**

**Dr. Farmer was the son of the late Wm. Scott Farmer and Mrs. Amanda Smellage Farmer.** He was born and reared in Putnam County.

Burial was at Buffalo Valley, his former home.

Herald Newspaper, Cookeville, TN: 11 August 1938, front page.

#### **Ollie (McGinness) Farmer Obt.**

Farmer Rites Held Monday

Funeral services for **Mrs. Ollie McGinness Farmer, 86, widow of Dr. W. S. Farmer**, were conducted at the Carthage Methodist Church Monday afternoon by the pastor, Dr. J. W. L. Matlock, assisted by the Rev. Herbert Leslie, minister of the Christian Church. **Burial was in Ridgewood Cemetery.**

Mrs. Farmer died in Smith County Hospital Sunday shortly after noon from a stroke she suffered in February.

She was born and reared in Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN, a **daughter of the late Felix P. and Victoria Jared McGinness.**

She was married to Dr. Farmer who for many years was superintendent of Central State Hospital in 1936. Dr. Farmer, who had previously practiced medicine in Cookeville, died 1940. She had lived here since his death.

She was a member of the Carthage Methodist Church, being very active in various women's organizations of the church and in numerous church activities, in all of which she had an interest and pride.

Survivors are three brothers, **H. B. and Roscoe McGinness**, Carthage, and **Dewitt McGinness**, Carthage; two nieces, Mrs. J. B. Gore, Carthage; Mrs. Kenneth Robinson, Atlanta; and one nephew, Houston McGinness, Los Angeles.

Sanderson Funeral Home was in charge.

Carthage Courier Carthage Newspaper, TN: Thursday, 18 April 1963.

\*See Buffalo Valley Historical Home: History, Buffalo Valley files at:  
<http://www.ajlambert.com>