

Obituary of Solon Gentry

b. 5 December 1886, Baxter, TN

d. 23 May 1955, TN

Wife: Norma Maddux

Parents: Robert Byrd "Burt" Gentry & Mary Lowe

Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN

25 May 1955

Funeral services for Solon Gentry, 68, were scheduled to be held at First Methodist Church this afternoon. The Rev. Bruce Strother was to officiate and burial is to be at Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN.

Gentry died unexpectedly of a heart attack at his home Monday morning. He retired in 1952 as Ticket Agent for Trailways bus line, a position he held for 12 years, he was with the Post Office 20 years, part of which he was Assistant Postmaster.

A native of Putnam County, son of Robert Byrd and Mary Lowe Gentry, he was a member of the Methodist Church. Whitson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Norma Maddux Gentry; 4 sons, Solon Gentry of Johnson City, Hop Gentry of 1000 Oaks, CA, Gleen Gentry of Clarksville and W.M. Gentry of Old Hickory; 4 daughters, Mrs. John Pointer of Cookeville, Mrs. E.B. Taylor of Canandaigua, NY; Mrs. George Reed of Norfolk, VA and Mrs. Harry Lea Jr. of Lebanon, TN; 6 brothers, Dow and Paschel Gentry both of Dallas, TX, Eugene and Hubert Gentry of Houston, TX, Howard Gentry of Little Rock, AK, and R.B. Gentry of Corpus Christy, TX; 2 sisters Mrs. Clay Venable of Lawton, OK and Mrs. John Stuart of Dallas, TX.

Obituary of Norma Maddux Gentry

b. 25 November 1885, Putnam Co., TN

d. 28 February 1966, TN

Husband: Solon Gentry

Parents: Silas Foster "Sil" Maddux & Nancy Josephine "Josie" Wallace

Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN

Tuesday, 1 March 1966: pg. 6

Funeral services for Mrs. Norma Maddux Gentry, 80, will be held Wednesday from the First Methodist Church in Cookeville with the Rev. Phillip Ritter officiating. The hour is 2:00.

Mrs. Gentry died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Pointer on Rt. 3, Monday. She was a native of Putnam County, the daughter of the late Silas Foster and Josephine Wallace Maddux, and was the widow of Solon Gentry.

In addition to Mrs. Pointer, other survivors include 3 daughters, Mrs. Bruce Taylor of Columbus, OH, Mrs. George Reed of Bainbridge, MD, Mrs. Harry Lea of Lebanon, TN, 4 sons, Tony Gentry of 1000 Oaks, CA, Solon Gentry of Johnson City, Glen Gentry of Clarksville, William Gentry of Old Hictory, TN; 1 brother, George Maddux of Baxter, TN; 18 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Burial will be in Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN.

Hooper and Huddleston Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

...**Nancy Josephine “Josie” Wallace** – b. 10 October 1866, TN –
d. 30 June 1948, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN –
d/o **Hugh Wallace & Juliann “Julia” Ann Henley**
Raised by W. Byrd & Lucretia Matelia “Creese” (Henley) Wells.
md ca. 1885, **Silas Foster “Sil” Maddux** –
b. 22 July 1864, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN –
d. 15 October 1942, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN
s/o **George Henry & Elizabeth J. (Brown) Maddux**
Both Buried: Maddux - Elrod Cemetery, Baxter, TN – Hwy 70
Listed in the 1900 US census as living in the 17th Dist. of Putnam Co., TN.
...**Norma Maddux** – b. 25 November 1885, Putnam Co., TN –
d. 28 February 1966, TN -
md 31 January 1909, Putnam Co., TN, **Solon Gentry** –
b. 5 December 1886, Baxter, TN – d. 23 May 1955, TN
Both Buried: + Cookeville City Cemetery, Cookeville, TN
s/o **Robert Byrd “Burt” Gentry** – b. 25 September 1863,
Putnam Co., TN - d. 25 October 1944, Lawton, Comanche, OK &
Mary Lowe – b. 11 May 1867, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN –
d. 23 March 1887, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN
Buried: Allison Cemetery, Ensor Bottom, Putnam Co., TN
Children of Norma (Maddux) & Solon Gentry:
...Henry W. Gentry – b. 6 November 1909 – d. 4 August 1938
...Norma Mildred Gentry – b. 23 August 1911, Hereford, TX
...George P. Gentry – b. 1 March 1913 – d. 24 April 1913 –
Buried: Maddux Elrod Cemetery, Baxter, TN
...Mary Elizabeth Gentry – b. 11 February 1914
...James Solon Gentry – b. 3 January 1916, Putnam Co., TN –
d. 1979, Johnson City, TN – (*See Solon Gentry Jr. Obt.)
...Glenn Staley Gentry – b. 26 December 1917
...Josephine Gentry – b. 10 June 1920 – d. 5 March 1921
...Virginia Frances Gentry – b. 14 June 1922
...Len K. Gentry – b. 28 February 1923 – d. 13 July 1923
...Pauline Gentry – b. 8 February 1924
...William Mack Gentry – b. 5 April 1925
...**George Henry Maddux** – b. 19 October 1887, Putnam Co., TN –

d. 7 May 1973, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN -
md 20 December 1908, Putnam Co., TN, **Verda Pedigo** -
b. 20 November 1891, Putnam Co., TN -
d. 24 October 1918, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN -
d/o **J. Denton & Arminta (Jared) Pedigo** - md Vala Marpew
Both Buried: Maddux Elrod Cemetery , Baxter, TN - Hwy 70
Children of George Henry & Verda (Pedigo) Maddux:
...Josie Margaret Maddux - b. 29 July 1910 - d. Putnam Co., TN
md 17 April 1928, Putnam, Co., TN, Alton A. Phillips -
b. 18 August 1904, DeKalb Co., TN - d. 14 February 1934, Baxter, TN
s/o James Allen & Martha Lou Etta (Johnson) Phillips
Both Buried: Odd Fellow Cemetery, Baxter, TN
...Silas Denton Maddux - b. 5 January 1913 -
md May 1937 Loy Autrey - b. 6 February 1916
...Reba Dell Maddux - b. 27 March 1915 - md 1st Earl Flynn -
md 2nd James N. Bain

James Solon Gentry Obt.



Solon Gentry, 63, retired business manager of East Tennessee State University, died at his residence at 1506 College Heights Drive early Wednesday morning after suffering an apparent heart attack.

Gentry, who was a native of Putnam County, was the son of the late Solon and Norma Maddux Gentry of Cookeville.

He received his B.S. degree in business administration from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute in 1936, and his M. A. degree in business and accounting from the University of Kentucky in 1941.

Before joining the ETSU faculty as associate professor of business, Gentry taught business and accounting at Franklin County High School, Unicoi County High School and Science Hill High School. He also taught at Winthrop College, Rock Hill, SC, and West Virginia Tech, Montgomery, WV.

A Johnson City resident for the past 32 years, Gentry became an assistant in the ETSU Office of the Dean of Admissions and Records as well as a member of the teaching faculty in 1950. He attained the rank of professor in 1956 and was named assistant dean of admissions and records.

Gentry was responsible for installation of machine record-keeping in the office of admission and records in 1951. ETSU was the first state college to introduce this system.

He served two terms as president of the Tennessee Business Teachers Association of the Tennessee Education Association.

He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the US Navy.

Johnson City, TN Newspaper, 30 August 1979, front page.

(SS Death Index: Name: **SOLON GENTRY** - Birth: 3 January 1916 – Death: August 1979 – Age: 63 – Last Residence: Johnson City, Washington, TN 37601 - Last Benefit: (not specified) – SSN: 414-05-8516 - Issued By: Tennessee).

SOLON GENTRY TO BE MISSED:
Johnson City Press-Chronicle, TN
OPINION
“What The People Don’t Know Will Hurt Them”

The community was jolted yesterday with the word of the death of Solon Gentry.

Mr. Gentry’s death was unexpected, the result of a heart attack.

For some 30 years, he was connected with East Tennessee State University. Processions of students knew him first as a teacher of business, later as an administrator. He had ascended to the post of business manager of the university before retiring a couple of years ago.

He was a native of Putnam County but had lived in this area for a long time. He had served as a teacher at Unicoi County High Scholl and at Science Hill High School before joining the faculty at ETSU.

His friends found his dry wit delightful, but he could be firm when the occasion demanded it.

He was a member of Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church and had been the teacher of the Couples’ Sunday School Class for perhaps 20 years.

Mr. Gentry had always been concerned with community affairs and had been active in many of them. He was a keen sports fan and maintained an avid interest in ETSU athletic affairs. He served for years on the athletic committee at the university.

To his family, we offer our deepest sympathy. He will long be remembered.

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