

## Harold M. Courtnage Passes

With the passing of Harold M. Courtnage on Thursday, January 29, 1976, Hagersville has lost one of its most widely-known and its oldest active merchant. He was the second of three successive generations of the family to have operated what is known simply to the community as "Courtnage's", a prominent tobacco, confectionery and variety store. The family has served the Hagersville district for ninety years, the store having been opened at the same location and in the same building by Harold's father, John, and is of course now in the hands of the third generation, being under the guidance of William "Bill" Courtnage.

Harold Courtnage had become almost what one could call an institution in Hagersville, for even in his latter days, at the age of 80, and under the strain of physical handicap, he continued to spend part of most of his days in the store, visiting with his wide circle of friends and customers. To say the least, Harold will be greatly missed from the Hagersville Community and will be long remembered for his pleasant and friendly manner.

Born in Hagersville on June 1st, 1895, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John William Courtnage he received his education in the Hagersville Schools and later enlisted for service with the



Canadian Army during World War I. Upon his discharge from the military, he returned to his hometown and became associated with his father in the family business. Aside from becoming a respected and valued member of the business community, Harold, in his more active years, had been quite involved in civic affairs, having been one of the founding members of the Hagersville Amateur Athletic Association as well as serving for some time on the Hagersville School Board. He had been a member of the Hiram Masonic Lodge for 58 years.

On September 12, 1923, he was united in marriage with the former Doris Swanton, who predeceased him on September 23, 1974. To that marriage were born two children, William of Hagersville and Laura Jane of Hamilton and he is also survived by his daughter-in-law, Pat Courtnage and son-in-law, Elmer Robinson, as well as grandchildren Bruce Courtnage and Sandra and William Robinson.

The funeral took place on Saturday, January 31st, with service in the Chapel of the Hyde and Mott Funeral Home, Hagersville, being conducted by Rev. Adam Thomson of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Interment was in Hagersville Cemetery, the pallbearers being Phil Awde, Art Fretz, Lyle Furry, Don Hyde, Jim Lawrence and Dave Wase.

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