

His life companion passed away on May 2, 1912, his only daughter, (Emma) Mrs. George Guyer, also preceded him in death and two children died in infancy.

He leaves to mourn his passing his five sons Charles of Cedar Rapids, George of Ionia, Albert and Archie, of Billings, Mont., and Guy of Paddockwodd, Sask., Canada. Seven grandchildren, sixteen great grandchildren, five great great grandchildren; one nephew and one niece in England. Also a nephew and three nieces here in America, namely: Ralph Watts of Ionia; (Mamie) Mrs Orlo Potter of Nashua; (Eva) Mrs. George Hurlbut of Leroy, Minn.; (Gladys) Mrs. Jay Ashley of Mason City, besides hosts of old neighbors and friends. His brother, Charlie, preceded him in death, Oct. 3, 1912.

For the past fifteen years he has lived near Ionia, with his son George and family, who have tenderly cared for him in his declining years and where he will be sadly missed in the home.

He helped to build, and was a faithful member of the Congregational church at Bassett, and anyone as faithful and true to his country's flag must have been true to his God.

He was a member of the Mason Lodge of Nashua for more than fifty-one years.

A man loved and respected by all who knew him, children and grown ups alike loved to listen to him relate stories of the Civil War and hear him sing war songs. He was the happiest when visiting and entertaining others, always proud of the fact that he marched through Georgia with General Sherman.

His nephew Ralph Watts composed the following verse as a tribute to his grand old uncle Joe:

Uncle Joe, a Civil War veteran,
Tho his body now so cold;
Was loved by all who knew him
He had a heart of precious gold.
Splendid help in time of sickness
Would lend a hand at any time.
His reward I'm sure is granted
In that heavenly home sublime.

In the spring of 1937 he suffered a paralytic stroke and never regained his strength, tho he was never bedfast, being about the house each day until Wednesday, Dec. 15, when he lay down to rest and fell peacefully asleep never to awaken in this life.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, at the Congregational church in Ionia with Rev. Wm. Kent of Nashua officiating. He was laid to rest beside his wife in Mt.

Carol Cemetery on Rowley Hill, near Bassett in view of his old home.

Members of the American Legion bore his body to its last resting place. The Masons and the W. R. C. caring for the services at the grave.

Those from a distance who attended the services were: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Watts of Cedar Rapids; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Watts and Mr. and Mrs. Archie Watts of Billings, Mont.; Mrs. Vada Mitchell of Forest City, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Watts and two children of Waterloo; Mr. and Mrs. Jay Ashley, Mrs. Mark Owen and Margaret and Dora Watts of Mason City; Mr. and Mrs. George Friend, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hole, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller of Charles City; Ansie T. Brookins of Osage; Mrs. W. F. Harrison, Mrs. Thomas Barr and Mrs. W. L. Smith of Nashua.—
Ionia Corres.