

EDWARD BOSSINGHAM

11-11-1910 DIED SUDDENLY

Was the First President of Eagle Village, Prominent Mason and Modern Woodman.

On October 31, at about 10 p. m. the people of Eagle were shocked at the sad intelligence of the sudden death of Edward Bossingham, which occurred in his own home, while his wife was reading to him from the evening paper. Death was sudden and while laughing about a news item. No-one expected he would depart so soon. He was not complaining, had been at his usual work in his tailor business and was around town in the evening.

Mr. Bossingham was born in Wlesbich Cambridgeshire, England, May 13, 1841, and there learned the trade he always followed. He was married there to Miss Elizabeth Sneshall and came to East Troy June 21, 1869. Removed to East Troy June 28, 1877, established himself in business and made this his home.

In 1892 he was elected Supervisor of the town; and in 1899, when the village was incorporated, he was elected President and re-elected ten consecutive times. In 1910 he was elected treasurer. As a public officer he did his duty without fear or favor. He was a member of the Robert Morris Lodge 115 A. F. and A. M., and was tyler of the lodge for many years. He was also secretary and treasurer of Robert Morris Lodge Mercantile and Building association and manager of the Opera Hall. When the Modern Woodmen received a charter in 1889 he was admitted to membership and soon thereafter was elected banker, an office he held continuously up to the time of his death. In private life he was an exemplary man and in his dealings prompt, open and honest.

The funeral took place Friday afternoon in the Opera Hall, a place so often arranged for charitable, social and political purposes. The casket rested at the foot of the stage and was covered with beautiful wreaths and bouquets of flowers contributed by societies, relatives and friends. At the right were seated the members of the Masonic Lodge and back of them were the Modern Woodmen. Wm. W. Perry, grand secretary of the Masonic fraternity, delivered the address and paid high tribute to the deceased, recalling instances when he stood by a friend even at a sacrifice, and how he mourned and missed his deceased friends. The Hall was filled to its utmost capacity and the procession that followed his remains to their last and long repose in the Oak Ridge cemetery was the longest ever witnessed in Eagle. As a further mark of respect to the first and long time village President every business house in the town closed during the funeral time. Mr. Bossingham leaves besides his widow an only child, J. Edward Bossingham, of Canton, Ohio. Both have the sympathy of the community in their sad and sudden bereavement.

Edward Bossingham

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EDWARD BOSSINGHAM.

Edward Bossingham whose portrait appears above is a native of England and is 58 years old. He was educated in Cambridgeshire, the town of his birth and learned the trade of a merchant tailor. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Snushall in England in 1862. He came to America in 1873, locating in East Troy where he remained about six years following his vocation as a merchant tailor. He removed to Eagle, his present home, in 1880 where by his pleasing address, broad views and earnestness of purpose, he has become one of our most popular and foremost citizens. He was elected Supervisor on the Democratic ticket in 1892 and again in 1897. He is Secretary of the Mercantile Building Association and has held positions of honor and trust in the A. F. and A. M. lodge of which he is an active member. He is also a member of the M. W. of A. Camp at Eagle and is at present Banker of that Society. He was elected president of the village at the first election held Sept. 26, 1899 on the village ticket without opposition and re-elected on Tuesday. He is a careful and conscientious official dignified yet courteous, independent but willing to serve the pleasure of his constituents.

***Note from the book "Indiana & Indianans"

Edward and Elizabeth (Snushall) Bossingham, the former a native of Leeds and the latter of Peterborough. In 1868 the family came to the United States, locating at East Troy, Wisconsin, and in 1876 moving to Eagle, Wisconsin. Edward Bossingham was a tailor in business. For twelve years prior to his death, which occurred at Eagle October 31, 1910, at the age of sixty-eight, he had served his town as president of the board. On the day of his burial all the business houses closed for two hours. He was a useful citizen and richly deserved all honors paid his name and memory. He was a republican during his earlier years of American citizenship but finally became a democrat. His widow is still living at Eagle and is a member of the Episcopal Church. Edward Bossingham for many years served as tyler of his Masonic lodge and was also treasurer of the Order of Woodmen.