

Eagle's Doctor to Celebrate 81st Birthday

EAGLE. (Special)- Eagle's only doctor, Dr. J. J. Fitzgerald, will celebrate his 81st birthday Sunday.

Asked how he plans to celebrate, he said, "I quit having birthdays years ago." The unassuming doctor has been serving Eaglites for 55 years. However, he refuses to talk about himself or pose for a picture.

He began practicing in Eagle and has been there ever since. It is estimated that Fitzgerald has attended at the birth of almost every resident of Eagle.

A member of the county and state medical associations, Fitzgerald is well known throughout the state as a diagnostician. At one time he owned and operated a hospital in Eagle.

At present he takes his patients to the Waukesha Memorial hospital. His office hours are informal. Just stop or call any time.

In addition to his medical practice Fitzgerald has been a civic and community leader here. He was a member of the school board which erected the second school after the first burned.

He used to support and supply Eagle baseball teams with bats and balls. A pitcher himself when he was a youth, Fitzgerald is an avid baseball fan.

At one time he had a tennis court constructed on his lawn. He then opened it to the public. Interested in music, he had a fine tenor voice and held musical gatherings in his home frequently.

His rock garden is his hobby at present. A former president of the Eagle Lake assn., he has since sold his home on the lake.

Two years ago, Fitzgerald was almost totally blind. A cataract operation was successfully completed and the doctor can see well enough to read with ease at present.

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Veteran Eagle Doctor Served Area 50 Years

Dr. James J. Fitzgerald, physician in the village of Eagle for the past 57 years, died Tuesday afternoon at St. Mary's hospital, Milwaukee. He had been admitted to the hospital a week ago.

Dr. Fitzgerald, who was 82 years old last February, had practiced medicine in Eagle since shortly after he completed his studies as a young doctor at Rush Medical school, Chicago.

He was born in Oconomowoc, the son of Patrick and Catherine Maden Fitzgerald, in 1870.

He might be classified as the typical small town doctor. He kept

apace of the times in his profession as specialization narrowed the field of practice.

He established a five-bed clinic in Eagle complete for operating facilities and also compounded many of the prescriptions he gave to his patients, since there is no pharmacy in the village.

A friendly, witty man, he took a special interest in the young people of the village. He donated money for balls and bats for the community ball club and also allowed and invited Eagle youngsters to use his tennis court and the swimming beach he formerly owned on Eagle lake.

He found time to participate in many civic and political activities of the community.

A member of the county and state medical societies, he was recently honored by being named a member of the 50 Year club of the Waukesha county medical society.

Dr. Fitzgerald is survived by his wife, Hannah Connell Fitzgerald; two sisters, Mrs. Katherine Grant, Miami, Fla., and Mrs. Helen Whipple, Madison; and two nieces, Mrs. Helen Carlson, Madison, and Mrs. Kay Strong, Miami, Fla.

Funeral services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Friday at St. Theresa's Catholic church, Eagle. The Rev. George Budde will officiate. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Friends may call at the residence after 2 p.m. Thursday, 12/11/57



J. J. Fitzgerald, M. D.,
Eagle, Wis.