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Ray McKinnis Took Own Life Wednesday

Boonville Barber Inflicted Shotgun
Wound Through His
Heart

Ray McKinnis, 38-year-old Boonville barber, took his own life at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McKinnis, 605 LeRoy street, about 8:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

McKinnis shot himself with a .410 gauge shotgun. A doctor and ambulance were called and the victim was taken to St. Joseph's hospital. He died, however, on the way to the hospital. The discharge from the gun had entered the left chest and penetrated to the heart, inflicting the fatal wound.

Dr. R. L. Anderson, county coroner, ordered an inquest to be held Thursday morning at Goodman & Boller's undertaking parlors. Funeral rites were to be conducted Friday at the Baptist church. Burial will be in Walnut Grove cemetery.

McKinnis operated a small barber shop on Morgan street opposite the Missouri Power & Light company gas plant. He had been despondent, members of the family said. His mother had given him a glass of buttermilk after he had risen from bed this morning, she told Coroner Anderson. "There is more if you want it," she said, and walked back into the kitchen. A moment later she heard the report of a gun. McKinnis had crumpled forward onto the floor, the gun beneath him. He was dying when members of the family reached him.

McKinnis was born in Omaha, Ill. The family came from Illinois to Missouri about 16 years ago. McKinnis served during the world war and was a barber in the army camp at Greenville, S. C. His wife died six years ago. To that union two children were born. They are Billy Ray 14, and Maudline, 12. They are living with their grandfather and grandmother Davenport at Greenville, S. C. He is also survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McKinnis, three sisters, Mrs. W. T. Barrett, and Miss Ruby McKinnis, of Boonville; and Mrs. Oscar Coble, of St. Louis; and one brother, L. W. McKinnis, Cincinnati, Ohio. Another brother, Bryant McKinnis, took his own life Nov. 25, 1931, according to the coroner's records. He drank carbolic acid after previously attempting suicide with a shotgun, the record reads.

Sympathy is extended to the family in this hour of tragedy for them.

McKinnis