Boonville Girl, 16, Drowns In Lake Of Ozarks

Waneta Haley, Wading In Shallow Water, Apparently Slipped Off Ledge

Funeral services for Waneta Haley, 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Haley, 900 East Spring Street, who drowned Sunday in the Lake of the Ozarks, were held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 in the Baptist church conducted by the Rev. W. C. Brodersen.

Burial was in Walnut Grove cemetery directed by the Stegner-Koenig funeral home.

Miss Haley, an inexperienced swimmer, was wading in shallow water in a secluded part of the lake a mile southeast of Gravels Beach when she apparently slipped off a ledge into water 20 feet deep.

Falls To Reach Girl

Wallace Rouse, of Columbia, one of five companions in the party which included Waneta's sister, Betty Haley, 16, diver for the girl when he saw her go under water. He failed to reach her.

The group, which had gone motorboating shortly after noon, asked for help. Persons on the opposite bank summoned Dr. A. J. Gunth from Versailles and J. E. Dunn, a hotel operator at Gravels Beach, who brought grappling hooks.

The drowning occurred about 1:30.

After an intensive 45-minute search for the body, it was found by Webb Zumwalt, of Columbia, another member of the swimming party. Artificial respiration given for an hour, failed to revive the girl.

Coroner Gives Verdict

Coroner Kinaum of Morgan county gave a verdict of "death by accidental drowning."

Others in the party which had rented the motorboat at Gravels Beach two hours before the tragedy were Ruth Offner, Estelle, Miss, and Fred Dean, Jr., of Columbia.

Miss Haley was born in St. Louis county on December 9, 1922, the daughter of James J. and Grace Bilyeu Haley. She was a student in the Boonville Junior High School.

She is survived by her parents, three sisters, Betty Lee, Gwenon Jean, and Beverly Joe, and seven brothers, Jack, Marvin, Bobby, Wendell, Donald, Billy Jim, and Teddy.

A grandmother, Mrs. Ellen Haley Barrett, also survives.

Pallbearers were: Monte Coulter, Jr., Robert Buschmeyer, Norris Allen and Patrick McShane, all of Boonville; Wallace Rouse and Webb Zumwalt, both of Columbia.