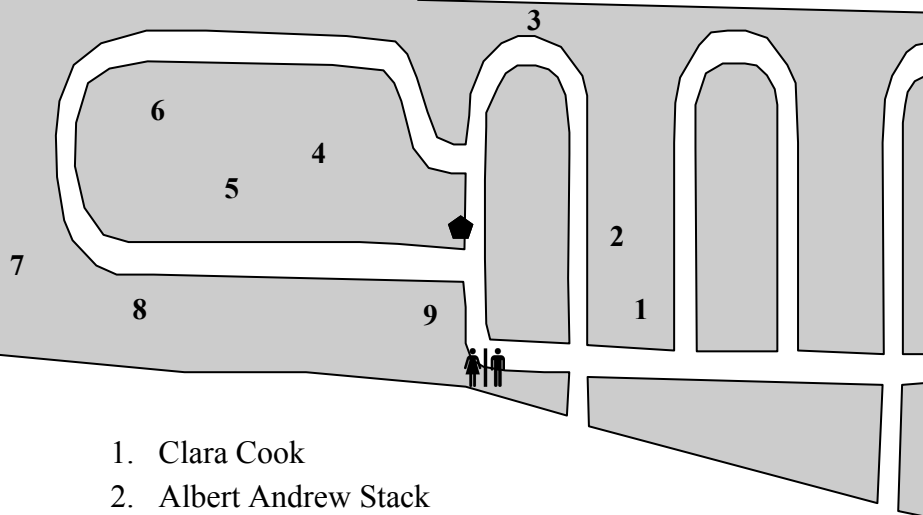


North Platte Cemetery



1. Clara Cook
2. Albert Andrew Stack
3. Calvin Drake Rose
4. Roy Frederick and Harley Leroy Bunnell
5. Edward Peter Rebhausen
6. Dora Agnes Kitzmiller
7. Edith Hazel Lindsey Patterson
8. William Arthur Campbell
9. Eileen Keliher-Jeffers



Restroom (Porta-potty)

Lincoln County Historical Museum



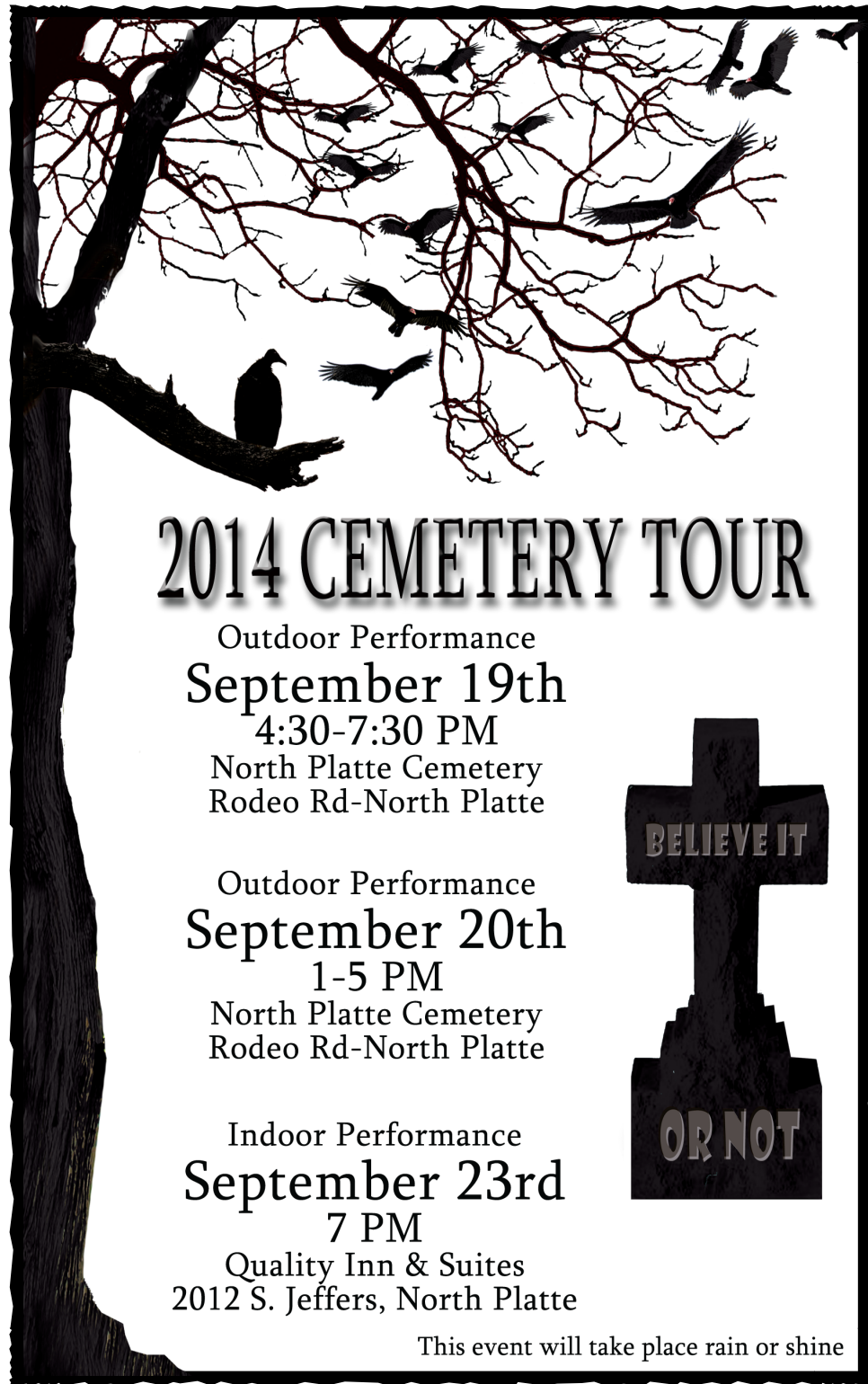
The Museum will have historic North Platte, Lincoln County, and Nebraska books for sale

***Thank you for attending the
2014 Believe It or Not Cemetery Tour!***



Mid-Nebraska Community
Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation

Proceeds from this event benefit the *North Platte Public Library Foundation*, a non-profit fund of the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation designed to enhance the facility and services of the North Platte Public Library.



2014 CEMETERY TOUR

Outdoor Performance

September 19th

4:30-7:30 PM

North Platte Cemetery
Rodeo Rd-North Platte

Outdoor Performance

September 20th

1-5 PM

North Platte Cemetery
Rodeo Rd-North Platte

Indoor Performance

September 23rd

7 PM

Quality Inn & Suites
2012 S. Jeffers, North Platte



This event will take place rain or shine

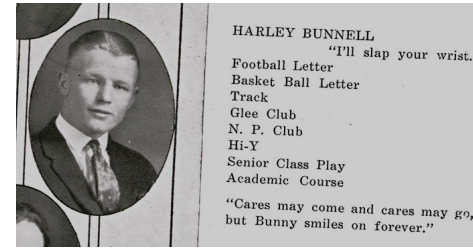


THANK YOU

Thank you to the many individuals and business that make this tour possible:

- ◆ North Platte Community Playhouse
- ◆ Lincoln County Historical Museum
- ◆ Scotty's Potties
- ◆ North Platte Public Library Staff
- ◆ NPPL Foundation Board (Rob Martinson II, Colin Taylor, Traci McKeon, Sky Seery, Denise Skiles, Carolyn Clark and Bob Barnhouse)
- ◆ Event day staff (Sandy Erickson, Rob Martinson II, Sara Aden, Kaycee Anderson, Amy Jo Coffman, Denise Skiles, Bill Kackmeister, Cecelia Lawrence, Carolyn Clark)
- ◆ Actors (Traci McKeon, Bridget McKeon, Ila Smith, Jason Gale, Kevin Winder, Shelly Deardoff, Suzanne Deardoff, Teresa Smith, and Lois Lynes-Miles, and Bill Kackmeister)
- ◆ North Platte Bulletin
- ◆ North Platte Telegraph
- ◆ KNOP-TV and KODY-Radio
- ◆ Railfest

was a popular student. He was a member of the championship football team of 1921 and a member of the track team. His friends called him "Bunny."



William Arthur Campbell

Story told by the pilot who was involved with Campbell's death.

Portrayed by Kevin Winder.

William Arthur Campbell was born February 12, 1888, in Topeka, Kansas. He married Maude Agnes Miller on December 25, 1911. Together, they had eight children. He worked as a switchman for the Union Pacific Railroad.

William was fatally injured when he was struck by an airplane propeller in a freak accident.

The accident occurred June 16, 1924 between 7th and 8th streets in North Platte. According to witnesses, Campbell had just come up the alley and attempted to pass the plane when he was caught. It was thought that he misjudged the distance between the propeller and the entryway.

Campbell was near the scene because he had been helping a neighbor, Art Toope, work on his car and at the time of the accident was going to the Toope resident. He carried an axe in his hand but no one knew what he was going to do with the tool.

Believe It or Not.



Roy and Harley Bunnell

Story told by mother and wife Jennie, Portrayed by Teresa Smith.

Roy Frederick Bunnell was born on September 1, 1880, in Danville, Illinois. He came out to North Platte with the Railroad and on June 14, 1903, he married Jennie Agnes Warner. Together they had five children, Harley, Arden, Ellen (who died at age 2), Clausen, and Frederick.

Roy worked for the Union Pacific Railroad for 22 years. He began his railroading career first as a fireman and then as an engineer.

Roy was electrocuted in his basement at 4:00 AM on October 8, 1923. He arose early to go hunting and found the lights upstairs not working. He went to the basement in his bare feet to try the lights down there. Mrs. Bunnell heard the body fall to the basement floor and went at once to see what had happened. Jennie found him in the basement, still clutching the light bulb in his hand. The weight of his body pulled the light from its socket.

Neighbors and a physician were called to the scene, but it was too late and Roy was dead. An examination of the body found his hand badly burnt as well as the soles of his feet.

Upon examination of the light socket, the metal socket insulation was found to be defective and Roy's feet on the damp concrete floor formed a direct connection with the earth.

Roy died on October 8, 1923, at age 43. He was a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, IOOF, and the Lutheran Church.



Engine No. 20

A mere 16 days later, Jennie had more heartbreak, when her first born son, Harley died. Harley was 19 years old.

Following in his father's footsteps, Harley got a job right out of high school with the Union Pacific Railroad. He was a machinist helper.

On October 24, 1923, Harley was working on the engine of No. 20. Engine No. 20 had just pulled up at the freight depot where Bunnell and several other workmen were readying the engine for its run into Grand Island.

While they were working on the Engine, a reverse lever was accidentally pulled, putting the gear into motion that Harley was working on. The gear caught Harley's head just below the ears, crushing it and causing instant death.

Harley graduated from North Platte High School in the class of 1922 and

Clara Cook

Portrayed by Shelly Deardoff.

Clara Cook was born on February 21, 1894 to Annie and Frank Cook in Hershey, Nebraska. She was the only biological child born to this couple.

Clara learned early that she needed to work hard to please her mother. She also learned how to manipulate people, especially men.

Once Clara was approximately 12-13 years old, Annie took her to meet Jane in Omaha to train her to work in a brothel. Upon their return to North Platte, Annie had her working in the brothels she owned. Clara shared her mother's love of money and seemed to be following in her footsteps.

Clara and Annie did argue and fight on a regular basis on just about any subject, but especially money. Money discussions were always intense between these two women. According to the book Evil Obsession by Nellie Snyder Yost: *During one such argument, Annie became enraged with Clara and threw a stove lid iron at her. It hit Clara in the head and she dropped dead immediately.*



Clara and Annie Cook
Date is unknown.

The public story that ran in the North Platte Bulletin stated that Clara Cook died from mistakenly drinking Lysol instead of a headache potion she usually drank each afternoon, thereby accidentally poisoning herself. Another rumor also ran through the grapevine that an individual who lived on the Lincoln County Poor Farm deliberately poisoned her to get back at Annie.

The real cause of Clara Cook's death is unknown as the death certificate and newspaper stories and eyewitness accounts are all different.

Clara died on May 29, 1934, at age 40.

Clara died on May 29, 1934, at age 40.



Eileen Keliher-Jeffers

Portrayed by Lois Lynes-Miles.

Eileen Keliher was born June 14, 1904 to Timothy and Julia Keliher. Her father was a Lincoln county sheriff. He became a well known railroad special agent for the Union Pacific railroad and chased down many train robbers. Sadly, Julia died in childbirth. Eileen's father approached his best friend and Julia's sister, William and Lena Jeffers to raise the child. They agreed and eventually adopted her. She became Eileen Keliher-Jeffers, but always remained close to her birth father.

William Martin Jeffers died on March 6, 1953 in Pasadena, California. The entire Jeffers estate was left to his chief beneficiary, Eileen Keliher-Jeffers.

On May 3, 1965, Eileen married Superior Court Judge Thomas C. Yager in Los Angeles, California. She was 61 years old and he was 47. It was one of the social events of the year in Southern California. They were married in the private chapel of James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles with former California Governor Goodwin J. Knight as best man.

Eileen and Thomas went sailing off Catalina Island for a few days after the wedding before they took their honeymoon to Honolulu. But the Hawaiian honeymoon never took place. During that voyage off the coast of California, Eileen vanished, apparently falling overboard and was lost. According to Yeager's report, he was below deck and had left her at the wheel above deck. When he came up top, Eileen was gone. Yager believed that she may have gotten dizzy from seasickness and fallen overboard.

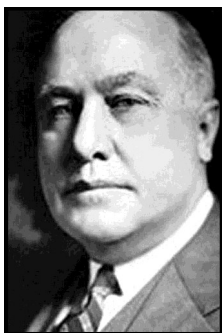
A task force of ships and planes searched for days for her.

Thomas C. Yager died on November 26, 2008. Although he was never charged with any wrongdoing, he lost his judgeship after 15 years, mainly because of public leering and mistrust about what happened to Eileen. Nobody knows what ever happened to Eileen Keliher-Jeffers. Her cause of death was officially listed as "Lost at sea."

Believe It or Not.

HEIRESS WAS BORN HERE

Planes And Ships Searching
Pacific For Missing Woman



Bill Jeffers
1876-1953



We further find that the careless use of said instrument was caused by his intoxicated and debilitated condition, caused by drinking to excess and exposure.

We further find that the liquor that caused his intoxication and debility was furnished to, or obtained by him in the saloon of Guy A. Laing, where he remained for the period of twelve hours, and where he received mistreatment and abuse at the hands of parties unknown.

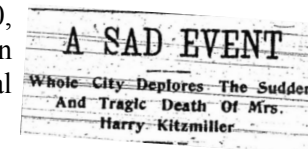
H.C. Nesbitt, Foreman
Wm. Woodhurst.
C.C. Hawkins
C.S. Clinton
S.W. Van Doran
John Delay

Witness my hand this 1st day of June 1897. —N.F. Donaldson

Dora Agnes Kitzmiller

Portrayed by Suzanne Deardoff.

Dora Agnes Minshall was born on February 10, 1882 to James and Mary Elizabeth Minshall in Nebraska and was christened at the Episcopal Church in North Platte, Nebraska.



Dora was 18 years old when she married Harry Hayes Kitzmiller of North Platte. They were married on April 13, 1900.

Dora and Harry were out for a hunting trip in their buggy on June 15, 1900. As luck would have it, they spotted a bird and Mrs. Kitzmiller got out of the buggy with the gun in her hands. She did not shoot and returned back to the buggy. She put the gun in ahead of her and started to get into the buggy. At that tragic moment, the horse acted up which caused the buggy to move violently forward, and the gun discharged.

Mr. Kitzmiller was trying to quiet the horse and did not turn to see if the gunshot had caused an issues. Sadly, the gun had discharged into Mrs. Kitzmiller's face and head. She died instantly.

Dora Agnes Kitzmiller was 18 years old.



Calvin Drake Rose

Portrayed by Jason Gale.

From The Independent Era Thursday, June 3, 1897.

Calvin Rose died at the county hospital in North Platte last Monday night after a lingering for a week in the hospital. A fact is causing a little uneasiness among a number of persons in North Platte.

About a week and a half ago, Mr. Rose, who was a farmer living in the southern part of the county, came to town and supposedly drank heavily. He was then taken in tow by a number of North Platte young fellows who thought they would have some fun with the old man, he being about sixty five years old.

They got him so full of whisky that he became stupefied. They then shaved one side of his face, moustache and clipped the hair from one side of his head. The old man was then placed behind a curtain in Guy Laing's saloon and a free show was established for the crowd.

He was kept in this condition for a day and night and then placed in his wagon and started home. The next day, he was found in the bottom of the wagon unconscious while team roamed over the country.

He was found in a very bad condition, with a stricture in the bladder, which incompetent men tried to remedy resulting in a worse condition. Rose was then brought to town, where the doctors relieved him. Since then, Mr. Rose has been lingering between life and death.

Quite a sum of money has been raised to prosecute an action against the persons concerned and it is thought that both civil and criminal prosecutions will be commenced. If this is done quite a sensation will follow as the persons concerned are quite prominent. The matter is the talk of the town.

From The Independent Era Thursday, June 6, 1897.

At an inquest into the cause of the death of Calvin Rose, made on May 24, 25 and June 1, the following verdict was handed in by the coroner's jury:

State of Nebraska, Lincoln County.

At an inquest held at North Platte, Nebraska, said county and state on the 24th day of May, 1897, before me, Dr. N.F. Donaldson, coroner of said county, upon the body of Calvin Rose, lying dead, by the jurors whose names are hereto subscribed, the said jurors upon their oath do say that we find from careful examination that the immediate cause of the death of the deceased was blood poisoning caused by puncturing the urethra with an instrument in his own hands, carelessly used by himself.

Edward Peter Rebhausen

Portrayed by Bill Kackmeister.

Edward Peter Rebhausen was born April 12, 1868 in Omaha Nebraska.

His family moved to North Platte in 1887. Upon arrival to North Platte, he worked for Wm Grady and then went into work for the Union Pacific Railroad until 1892. After a few years with the railroad, he left the Union Pacific Railroad to run a grocery business.

He married Sara W. Duffy on January 11, 1893 in North Platte Nebraska and together they had five children: Gertrude, Gordon, Vincent, Edward Peter Jr., and Madeline.

Shortly after the birth of his son Gordon, Edward went back to work for the Union Pacific and in 1905, Edward went into business with his brother Henry. Then in 1908, Edward served on the North Platte Police force during which he served as Police Chief part of that time.

On Sunday morning, October 30, 1921, Sheriff Salisbury was summoned to the Edis farm because the farmer found a body burning in one of his hay stacks. The body was found on the south side of the hay stack in a hole in the hay near the top of the stack. No marks of violence were found upon the body.

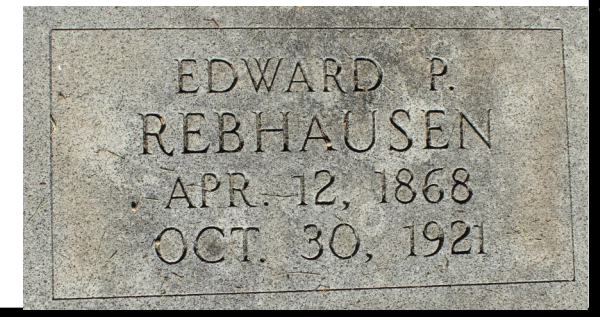
About noon that same day, Gordon Rebhausen (son) appeared at the county jail and stated that his father had left the house early Sunday morning at 1:00 AM and had not been heard of since. Gordon stated that his father had taken a revolver, a flash light and shells when he left the house. He stated that his father could be identified by a ring upon his hand.

It is odd that Gordon knew these facts as he did not live with his father.

The body did have a ring that matched the description that Gordon gave the police and although nobody knew how his body ended up in a burning hay stack, undertaker Maloney and Sheriff Salisbury felt that the ring was evidence enough and assumed that the burned body was the 53 year old missing Edward Rebhausen. No revolver or flashlight were found in or near the hay stack.

Like many of the stories on this Cemetery Tour, the facts just don't add up.

Believe It or Not.



Edith Hazel Lindsey Patterson

Portrayed by Ila Smith.



Edith Patterson
Faculty picture from
NPHS yearbook

Edith Hazel Lindsey Patterson was born on September 2, 1885 to Thomas and Mary Patterson. She was the fourth child of eight born to this couple. The fifth through eighth children all died in infancy.

The Patterson mausoleum was built in July 1919 to honor the memory of Edith's brother, George T. Patterson. It is unknown whether he died of Spanish Flu or committed suicide. The mausoleum was built by Chas. G. Blade & Company of Chicago, Illinois and contains over 60 tons of materials. The exterior consists of New England gray granite and the interior is embellished with very fine

imported Italian marble. The doors to the mausoleum are bronze. There are ten bodies in the vault.

Education was very important to the Patterson patriarch and Edith went to the state University in Lincoln, Nebraska. She graduated in 1908 and returned to North Platte to become a Latin teacher at the North Platte High School.

Edith was single when she died. Like three of the four surviving siblings, Edith never married. Only her oldest sister, Emma married.

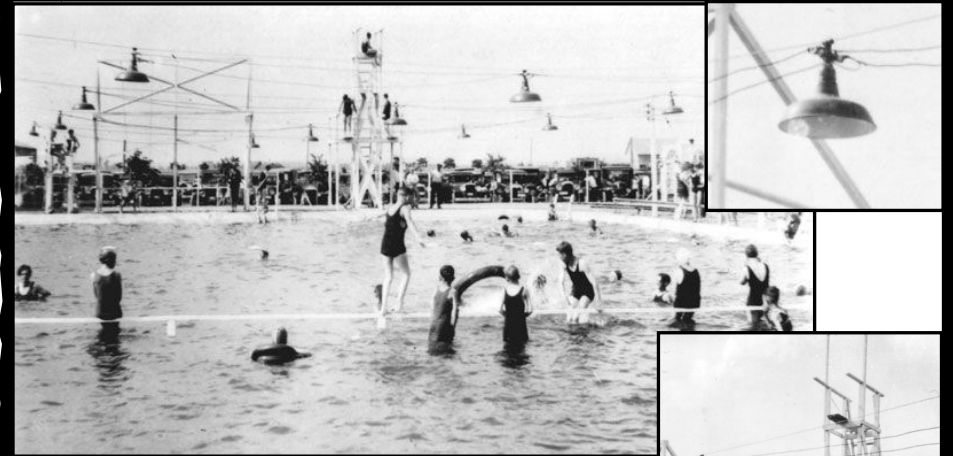
Edith's death was suspicious and odd from the start.

Around noon on Saturday, October 2, 1920, Edith's body was found in her bedroom on the second floor of the Patterson home; however, there are conflicting reports about what happened. Some newspaper reports stated that the house was filled with gas and another stated that she had perished in a fire.

Five men, Dr. Dent, W.R. Maloney, Rev R. Mackintosh, and Francis Sandall and Clarence Spicer went through the gas infested house and found the body. They were suspicious that Miss Patterson was in the house as the Patterson automobile was parked in front of the family home.

Many people questioned why she didn't smell the smoke or gas and leave the home.

Edith Hazel Lindsey Patterson was 35 when she died and is buried in the family crypt.



Gerle Swimming Pool, circa 1920.

On July 31, 1925, the newspaper announced construction of the *Happy Hour Swimming Pool*, located at 2400 W 9th St. It was built by Karl and Rudolph Gerle. This would be located near Buffalo Bill Avenue today. See picture in upper right with a close-up of the large outdoor lights strung above the pool for night-time swimming.



Albert Andrew Stack

His story told by his mother, Pearl Stack, portrayed by Traci McKeon and his sister Wilma Stack, portrayed by Bridget McKeon.

Albert Andrew Stack was born on November 10, 1918 to William and Pearl Stack. He was the first of two children born to this union.

Albert's friends and family called him "buddy." He died in a tragic accident on July 3, 1932 while working at the Gerle Swimming Pool.

Nobody thought much about the dangers of electricity and water in those days. Unfortunately, this was a dangerous mix and Albert died while changing out the light bulbs suspended over the Gerle swimming pool.

Albert Andrew Stack was 14 years old when he died.

