

DEATH CLAIMS FINE YOUNG MAN

Mr. Roy I. Drew Dies at His Home Saturday

Had a Bright Future Before Him in the Business World of Portsmouth.

The death of no other young man in recent years in Portsmouth, brought forth more expressions of regret from the community at large, than did the passing away of Mr. Roy I. Drew, who breathed his last Saturday evening at his home on Gallia street.

He was a young man on the threshold of life. His career was all before him, and the character of the preparation he was making for his life work was of such an order, that it held out the hope to his friends and admirers, that as a business man he would rank with the best. The prominence of his father, Mr. Irving Drew, in the shoe business and his identification with one of the great shoe manufacturing concerns of the city, inevitably led the young man to choose the shoe business for a career. He had laid the foundations for success, under the careful guidance of his father, and in the right way. Instead of starting in at the top, as the sons of too many wealthy men do, he had started in at the bottom. He had gone into the shoe factory when a mere boy, to learn shoe making, to become familiar with the practical side of the business. For years, he worked in the factory, from the time the whistle blew in the morning, until the whistle blew at night. The apprenticeship over, he advanced to a more responsible position and there had shown an aptness and intelligent grasp of affairs that gave bright promise for the future.

He was recently chosen as secretary and treasurer of the Irving Drew shoe company, and his devotion to duty was such as to show that he would prove a worthy successor to his father. The latter, no doubt, looked forward to the day when his son would be able to assume the entire burden of the business, as he undoubtedly would have done in time. Not only the father, and the family, were watching the career of this young man, but the community at large, were watching him with interest, as the future head of one of the great factories of the city. He was the logical successor of his father, and the promise there was in him, was noted with pleasure by those of us, who expect to make this thriving city, our home.

This, in a measure, explains the interest taken in young Drew, and the shock that his death caused the community. But there was more than this. Back of it all, there was something intensely human about the boy. He was rather bluff in his manner, but there was a earnestness and a heartiness in his greeting to every one that he knew, whatever their station in life might be, that had the ring of sincerity to it. He had his faults. So have we all. Sometimes the little faults in one's life, showing the human side, make one all the dearer to his friends. And, after all, when a young man dies, the best estimate of his character, the one that hits home with a keener and clearer comprehension than that of anyone else, is what his boy companions think of him. Measured by that standard, Roy Drew stands out in bold relief. Those boys, or young men, who were his intimates, and those who did not know him so well, all have the same kind words to say. They say that he was honest, that he was true to his friends; that he was fair and square in all his

dealings with them. And the interest shown in the news from his bedside, by his young friends, and their sorrow at his death, was a good indication of the esteem in which he was held by his associates.

The sympathy of the whole community goes out to the stricken

OBITUARY

Roy Irving Drew
(1880-1904)

Portsmouth Times
March 14, 1904

household in the death of this young man, whose future was so bright with promise.

Mr. Drew's death was caused by pleuro-pneumonia, from which he had been ill for less than two weeks. From the first, his illness assumed a critical form, due to the fact that he refused to take to his bed, until the disease was firmly fastened on him. For many days, preceding his death, he was delirious, and a doctor was in constant attendance at his bedside. All that science could do, was done, but fate had decreed that death would be the victor. And, so Saturday evening, at seven o'clock, on the eve of the Sabbath day, the tired spirit entered into eternal rest.

Roy Irving Drew was born in Portsmouth, May 17, 1880. He was the eldest child of Mr. Irving and Mrs. Ella Gates Drew, and besides the father and mother, leaves behind, four sisters and two brothers. He passed through the public schools here, and then went to one of the colleges of the country to continue his preparation for life. After a brief season at college, he came home to take up the shoe business, going into his father's factory to learn the practical part of the business, and, as noted before he was making rapid advancement in his chosen career.

Socially, Mr. Drew had a great many warm friends. For many years, he was a member of the Portsmouth Cycling club, and for a time, was a member of the club band. A short time ago, he became a member of the Portsmouth Lodge of Elks. He was a member of the Second Presbyterian church.

The funeral services will take place from the Drew residence, on Gallia street, Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock.

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Roy Irving Drew, Alpha, ex-'02, died at his home in Portsmouth, Ohio, March 12, 1904. Alpha Chapter has passed the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the will of Almighty God, in whose keeping are the issues of life and death, to remove from the circle of our brotherhood in the spring-time of his life our beloved and honored brother, Roy Irving Drew;

WHEREAS, Alpha Chapter wishes to testify to his immutable work as an exemplary member of Sigma Chi, be it

RESOLVED, That we extend to the mother, father, and members of the family of our deceased brother our sincere condolence and sympathy in their sad bereavement, and be it still further

RESOLVED, That as a mark of respect to his memory, the chapter hall be draped in mourning for thirty days, and lastly be it

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our deceased brother, published in the SIGMA CHI QUARTERLY and spread upon the minutes of this chapter.

R. W. RUMMELS,
L. W. HAYNES,
B. F. REISE.