

IBEW LOCAL 15 NATIONAL WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY APRIL 28th



LISTED BELOW ARE THE NAMES OF THE WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF OUR BROTHERHOOD WHO HAVE GIVEN THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD. LET US NEVER FORGET THE WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE SUFFERED FROM THESE ACCIDENTS. LET THE LIGHT OF PERSEVERANCE GUIDE US TO GENERATE A SAFE WORKPLACE IN THIS ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY. AND MAY NO NAME BE ADDED TO THIS LIST.

Revised July 27, 2021

KELLY R. SKILES, a fifty-three-year-old Overhead Electrician in Northern Region with twenty-eight years of service and twenty-four years of experience was struck by falling equipment at Crystal Lake Avenue and East Street in Crystal Lake, Illinois on Tuesday March 29, 2011 around 1:40 p.m. Two Overhead crews were working on a facility relocation job to move a pole on which one 34,000-volt and two 12,000-volt circuits were located. The crew completed the installation of the new pole and had transferred the 34,000-volt circuit. The top section of the old pole, with the 34,000-volt cross arm still attached, had been removed and was secured to the jib with the cross arm was lying on top of the bucket. While in the process of lowering the material that had been removed, a section of a cross arm with an attached porcelain insulator fell from the bucket and struck Skiles's helmet-covered head. Skiles died the as result of the injuries. Survivors include his loving wife, Linda Skiles; their sons, Kelly Gene (Trisha), Timothy Ray, and Michael Kenneth; grandchildren, Keegan, Karsen, and Katelyn Skiles. He is buried at St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery in Walworth County, Wisconsin. †



WILLIAM J. BOSEO, a Material Handler in the Joliet Supply Department with thirty-one years of service and twenty-four years of experience was fatally injured on Wednesday April 14, 2010 at Bedford Park Transmission SubStation when he was crushed between a parked truck and a falling porcelain switch. He was working alone when he was preparing to load the abandoned 138,000-volt switch onto a knuckle truck. Other workers found him pinned at the rear of the truck underneath the large switch which prevented his breathing. The coroner noted asphyxiation as cause of death for the fifty-one-year-old. Boseo was survived by his son, Anthony "Tony" Boseo and his dearest partner, Karen Rocush and her son Peter, and is interred at Resurrection Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †



ALEJANDRO I. COLLAZO, a thirty-eight-year-old Cable Splicer in the Chicago North Underground Department with twelve years of service and seven years of experience was severely burned on Friday June 6, 2008 at about 2:20 a.m. when an energized 12,000-volt metallic lead-sheathed cable splice exploded. Collazo was in the small, shallow triangular manhole in the 5100 block of West Roosevelt Road (near Laramie Avenue) in the Austin neighborhood repairing and replacing cable and equipment from a previous outage. The crew was removing another cable that had failed two days earlier. An "electrical flash" or discharge of electricity occurred, causing an explosion, fire or something "in between," ComEd spokesman Jeff Burdick said the day of the accident. Collazo was initially taken to Mount Sinai Hospital in critical condition but was later transferred to the burn center at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, where he remained for 187 days. Collazo, of Des Plaines, was pronounced dead, with the cause listed as thermal burns, at Loyola University Medical Center at 12:23 p.m. Tuesday, December 9, 2008 according to the Cook County Medical Examiner's office. He is survived by his wife Patricia (nee Slattery); and his children: Dennis Booth, Isabella Collazo, Alex Collazo Jr. and Nico Collazo. He is interred at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, Illinois. †

DANIEL J. YOST , born March 28, 1983, was a Glenbard Overhead Starting Electrician who had accrued ten months of service and experience into his two-year apprenticeship when he perished at about 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday August 21, 2007. Yost and the other two members of the crew had earlier replaced a defective rear lot line pole in the 100 block of South Lodge Lane in Lombard. Yost, who was belted onto the new pole, was transferring a secondary service conductor when equipment energized at 120 volts contacted his left forearm above the rubber glove cuff and electrocuted him. Bare service drop neutral messenger wires were close to his upper body and shoulders and grounded bare communication messenger wires were near his lower right leg, providing a potential path for current to run through his body. His fellow workers retrieved him from the pole and performed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation until emergency medical technicians arrived at the scene. An ambulance transported him to Good Samaritan Hospital. Yost, twenty-four years old and a U.S. Army Veteran, was pronounced dead at the hospital and was subsequently buried at Oakland Cemetery in McHenry County, Illinois. His survivors include his parents, David and Kim Yost; grandparents, Curt and Lois Kenyon and Richard and Eileen Yost; his brothers, Joshua, Samuel and Seth Yost; Scott and Mary Kay Kenyon, Cathy and Ron Bouthillette, Christy Thompson, Brian and Lori Yost. †

CHARLES L. REID , a fifty-three-year-old Coal Station Laborer at Midwest Generation Joliet Station was fatally injured at work on Friday March 31, 2006. He was working as an electrician, troubleshooting control circuits and lighting. At the end of his shift, he clocked out on the third level and followed his coworker, James Rhodes, to a manlift the workers used to travel between floors. To board the manlift, workers grabbed onto a handle located 55½ inches above each step and stepped onto the protruding step. When the lift arrived at the desired floor, workers stepped off the lift as it continued to move. The lift contained no enclosure or safety belt to prevent a rider from falling off the manlift or through the floor openings. Rhodes traveled down the manlift first, ahead of Reid. He did not see Reid step onto the lift. He exited the manlift enclosure and began to walk to the showers. When he was several feet away, he heard a loud noise and turned to find Reid lying at the bottom of the lift in a fetal position. He rushed over to Reid and called to him, but Reid was unresponsive. Reid sustained massive head injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene. No one witnessed Reid's fall from the second or third floor level. Severe trauma to the head was the cause of Reid's death. His surviving family included his wife Maureen, nee *Clarke*; and children Colleen, Erin and Chris.

JORGE MIJARES , born on April 6, 1960 was a forty-two-year-old Crew Leader in the Maywood Overhead Department, with eighteen and one-half years of service, who was killed at work as he was replacing arms on a pole in the 4000 block of Scott in Schiller Park about 10 a.m. Friday December 27, 2002. The aerial-lift he and a coworker were in descended onto an insulator bolt connected to a conductor energized at 34,000 volts. The bolt broke through the fiberglass bottom of the lift while Mijares hand was in contact with a grounded static wire. The arc-flash caused fatal injuries. Mijares's coworker in the lift, James Bowdry, was treated for burns at Gottlieb Memorial Hospital in Melrose Park. Jorge Mijares is survived by his wife, Frances Ann, and their four children, James, Kathryn, Daniel, and Kristina, all under the age of fourteen years at the time. His grave at Eden Cemetery is within view of the accident site. †

JOHN WESLEY FORDHAM , a fifty-two-year-old Coal Plant Operator at Midwest Generation's Joliet Station with twenty-nine years of service was fatally injured at work just after noon on Tuesday September 24, 2002. Fordham had driven with another employee to a coal pile to inform a third employee of overtime work. The employees parked the company car at the bottom of a coal pile, and the employee delivering the message walked up the roadway to the top of the pile where the message recipient was working. Apparently, Fordham decided to drive the car to the top of the pile. A Michigan 380B rubber-tired dozer working a coal pile, reversed and ran over the car, trapped him inside and crushed him to death. Fordham was pronounced dead at the scene. Fordham of Gary, Indiana was survived by his wife Ruthye and a daughter Antoinette Geddes. He was laid to rest at Evergreen Memorial Park in Hobart, Indiana. †

GREGORY EISNAUGLE , an Electric Maintenance Mechanic at Midwest Generation's Will County Station was killed at work on Wednesday November 14, 2001. Eisnaugle apparently came in contact with an electrical receptacle for a welding machine while working in the plant about 8 a.m. and suffered fatal thermal burns in the accident. The forty-year old veteran of the U.S. Navy was survived by his wife, Heidi M. Eisnaugle and his children Joseph Jackson, Erich Eisnaugle, and LaChelle Eisnaugle. He is buried at Resurrection Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †

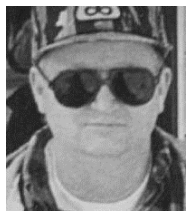


TIMOTHY A. MILLER , a forty-year-old Overhead Electrician in Crystal Lake Overhead with twenty-two years of service and fourteen years of experience was killed at work Wednesday June 7, 2000 in Lakewood. Crews were removing 4,000-volt equipment after connecting new 12,000-volt equipment. He was on the ground coiling a copper wire by hand. The wire had been cut down for removal but, hidden by foliage, was snagged on an overhead primary conductor energized at 7200 volts. The electrical shock killed Miller. He was survived by three children, Danielle, Brittany and Timothy Miller Jr.; his former wife, Deborah Miller-May; and his girlfriend, Gwyn Chase. Miller is buried at Calvary Cemetery in Woodstock, Illinois. †

MICHAEL READY , a Mechanic with twenty-five years of service was working in the Joliet Station Maintenance Department on December 22, 1999 when a beam fell from a sling and struck him. Midwest Generation, which had acquired the Joliet Station seven days before the accident, had hired BMW, who then hired United Goedecke, to replace hazardous seamed reheat piping. United Goedecke needed Midwest Generation's chugger, a pneumatic winch, to lift 25-foot wooden I-joists from the ground to the eighth floor, where they were going to be used to construct scaffolding around a boiler. Mechanics Eugene Jagodzinski, Anthony Panega, and Michael P. Ready decided to work together on the job. Jagodzinski and Ready went on to meet with Goedecke's personnel, while Panega went up to the eighth floor. Goedecke's representative told Ready and Jagodzinski that they were going to be lifting wooden I-joists up the chugger bay, an open area measuring approximately ten by twelve feet located between N° 71 and N° 72 boilers, to the eighth floor. Ready was to work on the ground. Panega would act as the radio signal man on the eighth floor, relaying instructions to Ready on the ground floor. Jagodzinski ran the chugger from its platform on the second floor.

In lifting the joists, a worker on the ground floor attached a sling to a joist using a choker hitch. To rig a choker hitch, the rigger wraps the sling around the object to be lifted and then threads one end of the sling through a loop sewed into the end of the sling; the sling forms a noose around the joist. The loop in the other end of the sling is then attached to the chugger's hook and tackle. When Panega radioed Ready to send a load up, Ready signaled Jagodzinski with his hands, and Jagodzinski raised the I-joist until it hung vertically from the choker down the chugger bay. Ready then signaled Jagodzinski to stop the chugger so that a twenty-five-foot tag line could be attached to the joist. After seven or eight joists were successfully hoisted in this manner, the last joist slipped out of the choker and fell down the chugger bay, striking the forty-five-year-old Michael Ready and killing him. Ready was survived by his wife Terry and two children.

DAVID GARCIA , a Crestwood Overhead Department Lineman with thirteen years of service and seven years of experience, was fatally wounded while at work on Saturday December 6, 1997. He was working from a pole behind 4800 Kimberly Court in Oak Forest when his hand touched an inadvertently energized cable termination while his body was in contact with a grounded pothead termination bracket. A missed switching step at a padmount transformer had left the cable energized at 7200 volts. The thirty-eight-year-old resident of Frankfort was pronounced dead at 10:18 a.m. in South Suburban Hospital, Oak Forest police said. Garcia, survived by his wife Jeannie and their daughters Brittany, 8 and Rachel, 5; was buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †



JOHN M. WESSEL , born June 2, 1954, was a forty-two-year-old Coal Station Laborer at Kincaid Station who resided in Taylorville, was removing coal dust from a dust collector in the main building with two coworkers when the powdered residue ignited and severely burned him on Thursday February 27, 1996. The other workers were released from the hospital that night. Wessel succumbed to his injuries on April 12, 1996. Survived by his wife Debra Kaaz and children Jonathan and Tara, Wessel was buried at Sulphur Springs Cemetery, Loami, Illinois. †

STEPHEN T. MASSOTH , a Northern Region Lineman with seven years of service and five years of experience, received a fatal injury on Friday July 28, 1995. He and another worker were replacing a storm-damaged open-type cutout in the rear of 622 Dundee Road in Glencoe. The initial plan to de-energize the equipment by opening upstream disconnects was changed because the large power outage would require notifications to police and fire departments. An insulated platform was not utilized because someone would have to return to the headquarters. After receiving the Dispatcher's permission, Massoth climbed the pole and opened the 'B' phase cutout. Wearing rubber gloves and sleeves; he then moved into position; removed the upper and lower taps; and removed the damaged 'C' phase cutout. After installing a new cutout and connecting the lower tap wire, he positioned himself to connect the still energized upper tap wire. His coworker heard a muffled blast and saw Massoth jerk backwards and slide down the pole with his feet stopping at the neutral. His upper body fell backwards and his head hung straight down. When his coworker asked him if he was all right, Massoth replied "No, I'm not." Two fellow workers were needed to untangle Massoth from the secondary and telephone wires and lower him to waiting paramedics. The 7200-volt contact was lethal, electrical burn marks were found on his right wrist, between the rubber glove and rubber sleeve, and on the bottoms of both of his feet. Massoth, twenty-eight years old, was survived by his wife, Ann; a daughter Ashleigh; two sons, Stephen Jr. and Andrew; and a sister. He is buried at Ascension Catholic Cemetery in Lake County. †

DONALD A. NOAH, SR. a forty-one-year-old Senior Mechanic at Crawford Station was fatally injured at work on Monday January 30, 1995. He collapsed while working in a condenser at Edison's Crawford Avenue Generating Station, 3501 S. Pulaski Road with another employee who required hospitalization. A Cook County Medical Examiner's spokesman said an autopsy showed that he died of lack of oxygen. Noah's survivors included four children, Jennifer, Donald Jr., Jason and Daniel and his mother, Jean. He is interred at Mt. Greenwood Cemetery in Cook County. †

JOSEPH M. CRIVILARE , who was born on May 31, 1963 resided in Riverside, Illinois and died in a workplace accident on Thursday April 21, 1994. He was a Lineman in the Chicago North Overhead Department working in a two-person crew while another crew was en route to the job. Crivilare was working from an aerial lift to install 600 ampere knife-blade disconnects on a new pole located in the alley north of Touhy and west of California Avenues when the accident occurred. The knife blades of the disconnects were closed, while the north-going taps from the switches were inadvertently left connected to the energized line. Unknown to him, the south-going tap wires he was working on also became energized at 4,000 volts. He was working, without rubber insulating gloves, on the unintentionally energized C phase tap with his right hand. His left shoulder contacted the B phase tap wire, energized from the north, causing current to flow through his body and electrocute him. The thirty-year old Crivilare left behind his wife, Mary, their six-month old daughter Gabriella, and his parents. He was buried at St. Mary Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

WADE "DOC" BOULDIN , was a forty-eight-year-old Operator at Kincaid Station with twelve years of service, was killed at work on June 1, 1992 when a slag tank doghouse door at the Unit 1 slag pit unexpectedly opened and struck him with a large blast of water. The generating plant, then owned by Commonwealth Edison, was in the midst of test burning coal from an Illinois mine. Bouldin's job assignment, which he had held for more than a year, was to collect samples of slag residue formed after coal is burned. Water, held in a 20,000-gallon tank, was used to cool the slag before grinding and transfer to a settling pond. Bouldin was supposed to turn a switch to shut off the water flow before opening a 3-foot-diameter steel door to collect the 6 p.m. sample. There were no witnesses to the incident. "The speculation is he started to open the door, realized he made a mistake and got hit with this tremendous force," Don Brown, of the Christian County Sheriff's Department said. A wing nut was stripped off the door's latch by the water pressure. The force of the water caused Bouldin to hit the back of his head on a guardrail, but that did not contribute to his death, according the deputy and coroner. Co-workers found him floating face-down in two to three feet of water. Someone immediately started CPR and found a pulse, but Bouldin died at St. John's Hospital in Springfield at 7:58 p.m. A Sangamon County coroner's jury ruled the death was accidental; caused by being slammed into a concrete wall by 20,000 gallons of water and the impact leading to heart failure. Bouldin, then a resident of Springfield, is interred at Sunset Memorial Lawns in Northbrook, Illinois. †

JERRY L. WILLIAMS , a twenty-eight-year-old Lineman in the Joliet Overhead Department suffered a lethal electrical shock while connecting a sixteen-foot-long jumper across a 12,000 volt disconnect switch on Thursday April 25, 1991. One end of the jumper inadvertently contacted an energized 12,000-volt B phase tap while other end of the jumper contacted his body and the common neutral.

MICHAEL J. ALBERTS , a thirty-two-year-old worker in the Rockford Substation Construction Department was electrocuted on Saturday June 30, 1990 as he positioned his body between a low side transformer bushing and the cable termination and electrical equipment parts presumed to be de-energized. A disconnect switch to isolate one of the system neutrals had not been opened. Alberts, interred at Willwood Burial Park in Winnebago County, was survived by his spouse Charet and children Erik and Elizabeth. †

DAVID L. MAVIS, a forty-six-year-old Crew Leader in the Joliet Overhead Department with twenty-one years of service and four years of experience, was working on a 4kV to 12kV conversion job at Distribution Center J18 located at Eastern and 5th Streets in Joliet on Monday February 27, 1989. Mavis died from contact with the energized high voltage side of the station's light and power transformer. The transformer, which was supposed to be de-energized, was unexpectedly back-fed through a circuit connected to a heater for the metering and control cabinet. Mavis was survived by his wife Karin and buried at Resurrection Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †

JAMES E. BRYANT, a Lineman in the Maywood Overhead Department with seventeen years of service and fifteen years of experience, was working on a lightning damaged three-phase transformer bank at Ernst and Franklin in Franklin Park on Friday August 21, 1987. The forty-one year-old Bryant died, while attempting to de-energize the 7200-volt equipment, when he contacted an ungrounded primary neutral wire. He was survived by his spouse, Arlene *Buie* Bryant.

GERALD A. WILLIS, born in Missouri on January 12, 1945, was a forty-year-old Lineman in the North Shore Area Overhead Department with sixteen years of service and thirteen years of experience, was preparing to switch underground cables on Lockwood Avenue in Skokie on Tuesday August 6, 1985. He was installing a feed-through bushing in a pad-mounted single-phase 12,000-volt compartmental transformer when his bare hand contacted the uncovered energized primary bushing. The electrical contact ended his life. Survived by his wife *Mary Padilla*, Willis is buried at Saint Joseph's Cemetery in McHenry County. †

THOMAS R. KNIPPENBERG , born December 17, 1942, was a forty-one-year-old Cable Splicer in the Glenbard Underground Department with twenty-two years of service and fourteen years of experience, was killed at work on Wednesday October 3, 1984. He was using a pneumatic hammer to break through underground cable ducts in preparation to splice a feeder cable at 22nd Street and Camden Court in Oakbrook. The hammer bit penetrated cables operating at 12,000 volts, resulting in Knippenberg's mortal injuries. He was buried at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

JOHN J. JAMNIK, an Equipment Attendant at Joliet Generating Station N° 29 with six years of service and five years of experience, was shutting down a coal dust collector system on Friday December 30, 1983. Coal dust became dislodged from the screw conveyor and fell ten levels to the floor, where it was ignited by a portable radiant heater. The resulting flash fire fatally burned the twenty-four-year-old. Jamnik died at 7:15 p.m. in Loyola Medical Center in Maywood after being transferred from Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet. He was survived by his spouse *Terry Ford*; his parents, a sister; and paternal grandmother and interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee County. †

LEROY DAVIS II, a forty-one-year-old Crestwood Overhead Crew Leader with sixteen years of service and five years of experience, was electrocuted at Orland Park Mall on Monday August 2, 1982. The job was to replace two 600 ampere disconnects that had been found "welded closed". The switching order specified to open the live line clamps above the disconnect switches and then open disconnect switches in a padmounted switchgear. For reasons unknown, the crew went to the switchgear first. While his crew was readying equipment to test the disconnect switch to be de-energized, or "fuzz" the disconnect, Davis contacted an energized disconnect in the switchgear allowing high voltage current to pass through his body and kill him. He was buried at Washington Memory Gardens in Cook County, Illinois. †

HAROLD G. ALBERTS, JR., a thirty-four-year-old Lineman in the Rock River Division's DeKalb District Overhead Department with ten years of service and ten years of experience, fell while climbing down a one-hundred-foot-tall pole on Sink Hollow Road located three-tenths of a mile north of Route 2 in Dixon Township on Thursday December 17, 1981. The injuries from the impact caused Alberts's death. No apparent cause of the fall was determined. Alberts is buried at Trinity Memory Gardens in Ogle County, Illinois. †

BRIAN J. OLDFIELD, a twenty-four-year-old Lineman in the North Shore Area Overhead Department with five years of service and two years of experience, was working to replace a three-phase 4,000-volt 25 kilovolt-ampere transformer bank at the Lincolnwood Municipal Building with a three-phase 37½ kVA transformer bank on Wednesday June 17, 1981. A temporary transformer trailer had been connected to maintain service. Another Lineman was working in an aerial lift adding an insulating bell at the front of the pole. He asked Oldfield to install a pin sling. Oldfield, standing on a grounded transformer rack, reached up and contacted an energized temporary cutout with his right arm, providing a path through his body for the lethal current. Oldfield was laid to rest at Mount Emblem Cemetery in DuPage County. †

RICHARD L. MCCRORY JR., a thirty-four-year-old Cable Splicer in the Chicago South Underground Department with eleven years of service and one year of experience, was preparing to pump out a below grade vault at the northeast corner of 72nd Street and South Shore Drive on Monday June 15, 1981 after heavy rains. One piece of the two-piece manhole cover became wedged in the opening. The cover was lowered into the vault and the vault was then pumped out. After pumping, McCrory descended into the vault to tie a line to the cover in order to raise and reset it. When he stood up from a crouched position, McCrory was electrocuted by his back contacting an open-type cutout with exposed parts energized at 2160 volts. Survived by his spouse Judith *Jakovec*, the Vietnam US Army veteran is buried at Clarendon Hills Cemetery in DuPage County. †

ROBERT L. HARDY, a Lineman in the Belvidere Overhead Department, Rock River Region, with eleven years of service and eight years of experience, was working on Wednesday April 22, 1981 with a crane to remove eighty-five-foot-long wooden poles as part of a job to dismantle an old 138,000-volt line at the northeast corner of Daysville and Flagg Roads, approximately seven miles south of Oregon, Illinois. The pole was top heavy due to the crane line's low position on the pole. Control of the pole was lost and the butt end swung up into the air. A sling rope, attached to the pole butt, tangled around Hardy's leg and catapulted him at least sixty feet high. The fall and impact caused multiple fractures and internal injuries, leading to his death at the age of thirty-six years. Survived by his spouse Linda and children Tanya, Becky and Chester, Hardy was buried at Highland Garden of Memories in Boone County. †

DENNIS J. BYE, born April 5, 1951, was a twenty-eight-year-old Lineman in the De Kalb District Overhead Department with seven years of service and four years of experience, died on Thursday April 26, 1979 while he was working from a tower approximately six miles south of Rockford and one mile east of US Route 51 at the 8800 block of Lindenwood Road in Stillman Valley. Bye was lowering a quarter-inch rope to pull up a tower rescue line for work on a de-energized 345,000-volt line. While standing on the grounded metal tower to lower the rope, the right side of his face contacted an energized 2400-volt static wire, which was supposed to be deenergized. His coworkers attempted to resuscitate him while an ambulance was en route. He was pronounced dead at Swedish American Hospital at 1:45 p.m. Bye was survived by his parents, his wife Cheryl *Fowler* and their children Stephanie and Bryan. Dennis James Bye is buried at Shattucks Grove Cemetery in Boone County, Illinois. †

DAYLE F. MCNAB, a thirty-two-year-old 'B' Mechanic at the Will County Generating Station with two years of service and experience, was critically burned on February 1, 1979. He was using a "strong-back" tool, similar to a wheel puller, to remove a diaphragm from the 4FU header which had been removed from service four days earlier. The diaphragm popped loose and the trapped steam and hot water scalded over sixty-five percent of his body. McNab expired twenty-five days later on Monday February 26, 1979, survived by his spouse Marilyn *Spasoff*. McNab is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

TIMOTHY F. DANFORTH, JR., a fifty-one-year-old Lineman, Special in the Overhead Department in the West Area with twenty-five years of service and eight years of experience, was electrocuted on Friday July 28, 1978 while working in a transformer located south of 63rd Street and east of Main Street in Downers Grove. Without wearing rubber gloves, he was attempted to install a fault indicator on an underground residential distribution cable positioned in a conventional, or 'live-front' padmount transformer. Danforth's right hand contacted an exposed disconnect blade, that was energized at 7200 volts to ground, providing a bodily path for the fatal current. Danforth, a World War II Navy veteran, was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in DuPage County, Illinois. †

JOHN D. DIETMEYER, a thirty-one-year-old Lineman in the North West Area Overhead Department with nine years of service and seven years of experience, was killed while working from a pole east of Roselle Road and south of the Northwest Tollway in Schaumburg on Wednesday April 26, 1978. The crew had transferred the conductors on the top arm on the distribution pole. Dietmeyer had unbelted and climbed lower and stood on an underground riser bracket. While another Lineman was preparing to install a down-guy wire, Dietmeyer leaned back and fell thirty-five feet down to the ground. Survived by his wife, Karin *Minogue*, Dietmeyer was buried at Ascension Cemetery in Lake County, Illinois. †

BILLY JAN PHILLIPS , born June 25, 1936, was an Electrical Maintenance ‘A’ Man at Kincaid Generating Station with ten years of service and seven years of experience when was burned over eighty-five percent of his body on Saturday September 17, 1977. The job was to identify a fan by using a ground and test device through a grounded 4,000-volt feeder. The grounding “stabs” were inadvertently left on the energized buss side in the 4kV cubicle. An arc flash occurred when the ground leads were applied to the unintentionally energized grounding equipment. He expired four days later at the age of forty-one. Billy Jan Phillips’s survivors included his wife of twenty-two years, Marilyn Sue. He was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Taylorville, Illinois. †

RAY ARTMAN , a sixty-two-year-old Power Meterman in the Rock River Region with forty years of service and twelve years of experience, was killed in a vehicle accident at McKinley and Route 14 in Harvard, Illinois on Tuesday September 6, 1977. He had pulled the company car into the intersection and was struck by an oncoming automobile.

DANIEL E. TOWNSEND , a twenty-seven-year-old Lineman in the Crestwood Area Overhead Department with nine years of service and four years of experience, was working on corner pole at 118th Street and Hamlin in Alsip on May 5, 1977 when he sustained severe injuries. While cutting a jumper tap with a pair of cable cutters, his right elbow contacted a 4,000-volt energized primary phase wire. The lethal current travelled from his elbow to his waist, which was contacting an uncovered neutral wire. He passed away on six days later Wednesday May 11, 1977. Townsend, who left a wife, is buried at Beverly Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

DAVID W. MCMASTERS , a Lineman in the North Shore Area Overhead Department with four years of service and two years of experience was painting a steel tower located on the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad right-of-way south of Dempster Street and west of Dodge Avenue in Evanston on Friday September 24, 1976. Paint spilled onto the 138,000-volt conductor and caused an electrical arc flash very close to him. Heat from the arc flash burned through his body belt and he fell to the ground. McMasters, twenty-six years old when he lost his life, was survived by his spouse Ellen Marshall and father Warren, and buried at ascension Catholic Cemetery in Lake County, Illinois. †

WALTER F. LANGOSCH , a Chicago North Substation Construction Department Foreman with thirty-eight years of service and twenty-eight years of Substation Construction experience, was physically identifying a cable in Transmission Substation #84 Rosehill on Thursday September 2, 1976 while working with a crew consisting of Steve Ciolino, Clarence Molsen, John Olson and Russel Kazmierczak. Langosch went upstairs alone while the crew worked in the basement. Area Operators Robert Kluck and John Hoerrmann were also at the station. They saw smoke rising over the compartments and found Langosch lying on the floor. He had mistakenly entered an energized compartment and suffered an electrical contact and arc flash burns over eighty-percent of his body. The fifty-six-year-old Langosch, of 4732 N. Newland Avenue in Chicago, left behind his father Walter and sister Lois Doetz. The World War II veteran is buried at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

THOMAS P. MCGREAL , a Lineman in the Des Plaines Valley Area Overhead Department with six years of service and three years of experience was repairing tornado damaged equipment at Transmission Substation N° 78 in Franklin Park on Sunday March 14, 1976 when he died from an electrical contact. During the process of slacking off a down-guy wire so that the apitong wood rod could be replaced, the guy wire dropped onto an energized 12,000-volt jumper. The guy wire became energized, allowing lethal electrical current to pass through McGreal and into the earth. The twenty-eight-year-old Viet Nam Marine Corps veteran was survived by his wife, Jan *Koranda* McGreal; his parents, Richard F. and Mary J. *Harrington* McGreal and siblings Stephen T.; Mary Catherine (Thomas) Youngholm and Ellen McGreal. McGreal was buried at St. Mary Cemetery in Evergreen Park, Illinois. †

JOHNNY RAY CASEY , a twenty-four-year-old Lineman in the Harvey Area Overhead Department, Southern Region, with four years of service and two years of experience was painting a steel tower located south of Caton Farm Road and east of Grandview in Crest Hill on Monday September 22, 1975 when he lost his life. The paint bucket either slipped or was tipped over. A stream of the spilled paint provided a path from the conductor energized at 138,000 volts to the steel tower at ground potential, resulting in an electrical arc-flash. Casey fell from the tower arm, but he was still suspended in his body belt. His body then bridged the distance between the 138,000-volt conductor and the tower as the reclosers operated two more times. He was laid to rest at Mound Grove Cemetery in Kankakee County. †

ROBERT W. RESPRESS , of 12141 S. Indiana Avenue, a thirty-year old Substation Construction Electrical Mechanic ‘B’ in Chicago Central with three months of service and one month of experience was killed while making repairs after heavy rain caused damage in a vault at 1339 N. Dearborn on Saturday August 12, 1975. Several parts of his body were touching grounded switchgear equipment when his left foot contacted an energized back-fed potential transformer fuse clip. Repress was buried at Burr Oak Cemetery in Cook County. †

ROBERT F. O’KEEFE , a twenty-five-year-old Lineman in the Des Plaines Valley Authority Overhead Department with ten months of Company service and three and a half years of experience, was working on a corner pole located in the alley south of Garfield and west of Austin Boulevard in Oak Park on Monday July 29, 1974. O’Keefe suffered a deadly electrical shock when his right forearm contacted a dead-end device on ‘B’ phase of Feeder N° 101 energized at 4,000 volts. He was buried at Oakridge – Glen Oak Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †



JAMES O. VOYLES , a forty-nine-year-old Substation Construction Crew Leader in Chicago North with twenty-seven years of service and five years of experience was fatally injured on Friday July 12, 1974 by contact with an energized bushing detail at the top of a pothead while working at S&C Electric Company, 6601 N. Ridge Avenue. The other crew members did not see the contact, making it impossible for the Investigating Committee to determine how the accident occurred. Voyles, survived by his spouse Colette Mary *Brown*, is interred at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Cook County. †

WAYNE R. FUCHS , born on May 8, 1944, was a Northwest Area Lineman with six and a half years of service and four years of experience, who received a mortal shock from an electrical contact on Friday April 26, 1974. He was working north of Jamison and west of Shepard in Hoffman Estates. The twenty-nine-year-old Fuchs attempted to place a fuse holder into an energized 7200-volt cutout with his left hand while holding the neutral wire with his right hand, creating a lethal circuit across his body. Fuchs was interred at St. John the Baptist Cemetery in McHenry County, Illinois. †

MATTHEW J. WYNNE, JR . , a Substation Construction Mechanic 'B' with two years of service and eleven months of experience, suffered a fatal accident, from a presumed electrical contact, on Saturday January 26, 1974 while cleaning insulators and buss on 4,000-volt equipment in Switch house N° 2 at Fisk Generating Station. An Investigating Committee was unable to determine the cause of death of the twenty-three-year-old Wynne. He is buried in the Wynne family plot in Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

GEORGE F. DVORAK , a sixty-year-old Engineering Associate in the Chicago Central Operating Analysis Department with forty years of service and eight years of experience was killed, along with Howard C. Shepar in a ninth-floor electrical vault in the Northern Trust Building at 125 S. Wacker Drive on Tuesday November 6, 1973. A series of explosions occurred during the process of energizing Network Center N° 7077. A protector at the transformer short circuited, causing an electrical arc-flash. Another transformer tank ruptured and the askeral insulating oil inside sprayed into the vault and onto the workers. Dvorak was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Forest Park, Illinois. †

HOWARD C. SHEPAR , a forty-eight-year-old Engineering Assistant in the Chicago Central Operating Analysis Department with twenty-two years of service and two and a half years of experience was killed in an electrical vault fire on Tuesday November 6, 1973 along with George F. Dvorak. A protector at a transformer short circuited, causing an electrical arc-flash. Another transformer tank ruptured and the internal askeral insulating oil sprayed into vault and onto the workers. Shepar is buried at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

FLOYD S. WILLIS , a thirty-nine-year-old Stockman I with three years of service and two and a half years of experience was killed at the General Warehouse in Stickney on Monday March 12, 1973 as a result of electrical and thermal burns he received. A material handling crane's load line had become energized by contact with an energized 34,000-volt overhead wire. Willis was burned when he grabbed a wire rope sling that was attached to the energized load line. Willis is buried at Lincoln Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

EMIL MISICHKO , a fifty-six-year-old Electrical Maintenance Man with twenty-one years of service and two and a third years of experience was examining wires in a conduit while standing on a coal conveyor belt at Joliet Station on Saturday April 8, 1972. The conveyor started automatically, knocking Misichko off his feet and onto the moving belt, which carried him under the discharge chutes. Misichko received fatal injuries from the crushing force of the coal from the feeder chutes. He was survived by his wife Kathryn and their children Susanne, Annajane, and Emil.

ANTHONY SANTANGELO , a twenty-six-year-old Cable Splicer in the Glenbard Underground Department with nearly three years of service and four months of experience, climbed a cable pole on Monday June 21, 1971 at Erie and Ridgeland in Oak Park to apply bonding tape to terminations on a de-energized cable. Instead of moving to the cable side of the pole, he continued his climb on the opposite side which held overhead equipment. The right side of his body contacted the energized blade of an open disconnect switch. Santangelo's right hand contacted the grounded cable providing a lethal path for 7200 volts through his body. Santangelo is interred at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Cook County. †

JOHN A. MCDERMOTT , a twenty-two-year-old Starting Lineman in Glenbard with one year of service and eight months of experience, was killed on a pole at 1405 Fullerton in Addison on Monday March 1, 1971. As he was passing his safety strap around the pole, his left hand contacted a grounded transformer case while his right leg contacted a grounded through-bolt supporting the transformer. His face contacted the load buster hook on a cutout that was energized at 7200 volts to ground, causing deadly current to pass through McDermott's body. He was buried at Bear Butte Cemetery in Meade County, South Dakota. †

NEIL L. KLOPSCH , a nineteen-year-old Steam Auxiliary Operator with six months of service and experience, entered a precipitator on Thursday August 20, 1970 at State Line Station, Indiana, in order to clean it. He laid an extension cord on the floor, stood up and contacted the still energized high tension beams. Klopsch received a lethal electrical shock. Survived by his father Melvin who also worked at State Line Station, his mother Joyce, two brothers and two sisters, he is interred at Concordia Cemetery in Lake County, Indiana. †

WALTER C. KUSIOLEK , a sixty-three-year-old Underground Cable Inspector at Chicago South with forty-two years of service and seven years of experience, was a passenger in a van at the intersection of Dante and South Chicago Avenues on Monday June 1, 1970. An automobile went through the red light and struck the right side of the van. Kusiolek was either thrown through the windshield or the open passenger-side door. Kusiolek died from massive injuries at approximately 12:25 am the next morning. Survived by his spouse Ann M. *Pociask*, he was buried at Resurrection Cemetery in Cook County. †

SENEI CATTEAU , JR . a thirty-two-year-old Coal Plant Operator BB at Kincaid Generating Station, with twenty months of service and eleven months of experience, was using a bull-dozer to remove burning coal from a compacted coal pile. The pile was approximately thirty-five feet tall with a five-foot overhang. The pile collapsed, a large amount of coal fell, crushed the dozer cab, and killed Catteau on Wednesday November 12, 1969. He is interred at Calvary Cemetery in Pawnee, Sangamon County, Illinois. †

JOHN H. GLYNN, JR ., a forty-year-old Tree Trimmer in Southern District Overhead Department with fifteen years of service and four and a half years of experience, was working from an aerial lift in Joliet on Monday September 16, 1968. He had extended the boom of the aerial lift to the side of the truck. The outriggers had not been set and the truck tipped over. He remained in the lift but suffered severe internal injuries when the aerial lift hit the ground. Glynn died as a result of his severe injuries.

GEORGE F. GANSZ , a fifty-year-old Circuitman in Chicago North Overhead Department, who had acquired thirty-one years of service and four years of experience, was fatally shocked while working in an electrical vault at 421-27 W. Melrose Street on Tuesday September 3, 1968. Primary lead wires from a transformer trailer were being connected to energized 3,760-volt jumper loops on a pothead switching table located in the vault. As Gansz reached for the transformer lead wire across the energized jumper loops, his left arm, above his rubber glove, contacted an exposed split bolt connection installed on the jumper loop. The deadly current flowed into his left arm, through his body, to his left thigh, which was in contact with the grounded pothead switching table. The World War II veteran was buried at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cook County, leaving behind his spouse Kathryn *McGovern* and teenaged son Thomas. †

ELLIOTT D. ROSEMAN , JR. a twenty-seven-year-old Starting Lineman in the North Shore Area with three years of service and one and a half years of experience, was working from a pole northwest of Libertyville, Illinois on Wednesday March 27, 1968. He was using his hands to tighten a live-line clamp to a de-energized tap wire. Roseman was electrocuted when the tap became energized at 12,000 volts. The tap was inadvertently energized when a Lineman, working two spans away from him, accidentally allowed that end of conductor to be blown into another energized conductor. Roseman is buried at Sunset Memorial Lawns in Cook County, Illinois. †

LLOYD E. WHITE , forty-four-year-old 'A' Mechanic at Kincaid Generating Station, with fifteen years of service and five years of experience, was working from a temporary platform above the coal surge bin at Kincaid Station on Thursday July 20, 1967. An angle iron that supported the temporary platform broke at a weld point. An approximately twenty-foot fall into the coal surge bin caused mortal injuries. White was survived by his wife Joan *Rayona* White and their children and buried at Concordia Cemetery in Lake County, Indiana. †

JOHN PARISE , a Lineman in Chicago South Overhead Department with thirteen years of service and five and one-half years of experience, was working in aerial lift at 7530 S. Greenwood on Thursday September 8, 1966. An energized 120-volt transformer lead wire was pushed against a transformer case by the lift. The short circuit arc burned a hole through the transformer case. Insulating oil spurted out through the hole and caught fire, severely burning the forty-one-year-old. With his clothing in flames, he either jumped or fell from the aerial lift twenty-seven feet to the ground below. Parise passed away five days later. The World War II Marine veteran was buried at St. Mary Cemetery in Cook County. †

JAMES J. FELLER , a thirty-four-year-old Cable Splicer in the Chicago North Underground Department with thirteen years of service and fifteen weeks of experience, suffered a fatal shock from an electrical contact on Sunday February 2, 1966 while splicing a cable bonding wire to the system neutral on a 2400-volt primary system. He was working from a platform at a cable pole at 593 W. Hawthorne Place. The primary circuit's return current electrocuted Feller when he opened the neutral wire. Feller is buried at St. Joseph Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

EDWARD V. GEDMAN , a forty-year-old Northbrook Lineman with thirteen years of service and nine years of experience, was killed on Thursday October 14, 1965 by an electrical contact. He was wearing leather gloves to splice a primary wire while working in an aerial lift. The wire was intended to be de-energized but was actually energized at 2400 volts because a fuse had remained in place and made an electrical connection after the cutout door had been opened. Gedman is buried at Ascension Cemetery in Lake County, Illinois. †

JOSEPH M. MCASEY , a thirty-four-year-old Radiation Protection Man at Dresden Generating Station with eleven years of service and five years of experience, died two days after sustaining injuries from a nine-and-a-half-foot fall. On January 30, 1965, a Saturday, he was knocked off a scaffold by a feed water heater diaphragm which had fallen. McAsey's head struck a relief valve during his descent. Survived by his wife Joan *Whalen* and his mother Marie *Riley*, McAsey is buried at Resurrection Cemetery in Will County. †

<p>CAESAR F. SCHMELTER , a sixty-three-year-old Equipment Inspector in the General Office Purchasing Department with thirty-eight years of service and twenty-seven years of experience, was found dead in a company car by an Illinois State Trooper at 10:44PM on Friday October 23, 1964 on Route 66 near Plainfield. The trooper found the vehicle after it apparently had run off the road. Schmelter had suffered a fractured skull.</p>
<p>DUANE R. BLAINE , “Gus” a thirty-four-year-old Lineman in the Chicago North Electric Operations Department with sixteen years of service and eight years of experience, was fatally burned while working atop a cable riser pole at Ashland and Addison in Chicago on Tuesday September 29, 1964. He was inserting a switching rod into an oil-filled pothead when the pothead exploded and shrouded Blaine in fiery oil. He was survived by his wife Mary Jane and interred at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>JAMES D. HAYENGA , a thirty-two-year-old Lineman in the Illinois Northern Electric Operations Department with nine and a half years of service and five years of experience, was electrocuted on Friday September 13, 1963. He was repairing a damaged wire splice on a system neutral on a pole approximately three-quarters of a mile northeast of Harvard. He and his crew had de-energized a downstream transformer to remove back-feed from the open neutral wire. While his coworkers were retrieving material from the truck, it is assumed Hayenga’s climbers cut out of the pole and he grabbed the energized 2400-volt primary wire above his head. He was wearing leather protectors without rubber gloves. Coworkers heard an arcing noise and turned to see Hayenga clutching the phase wire with his right hand, his left arm at his side and his feet hanging straight down. His left thigh had contacted the grounded through-bolt that supported a neutral clamp, completing a circuit and allowing current to pass through him. In addition to third degree burns on his right palm and left thigh, his left leg near his groin, was severely lacerated by the through-bolt which had temporarily supported his weight. Hayenga, a US Marine veteran, is buried at Mt. Auburn Cemetery in McHenry County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>DONALD A. SCHROEDER , a twenty-five-year-old Lineman in the Lake Villa Electrical Operating Department with six years of service and two years of experience, sustained a 7200-volt electrical contact on Friday September 6, 1963. He and another Lineman were installing an alley arm, transformer and associated equipment on a pole east of Route 83 on the south side of Route 173 in Antioch. While using a tie stick to tie in a 7200-volt wire, he inadvertently energized an arrestor’s ground wire. The ground tap wire extending down the pole was not yet connected to the neutral or the ground rod. The energized ground tap wire was contacting his right leg while the system neutral was contacting his right arm. The current charging through his body caused third degree burns on his right arm and on his right leg from the shin to the crotch. Schroeder revived and was transported to Victory Memorial Hospital in Waukegan. The following Monday, he was transferred to Passavant Memorial (Northwestern) Hospital in Chicago so that an artificial kidney could be used because his own were not functioning. Schroeder died from his injuries six days after the accident. †</p>
<p>RICHARD TYLER , a Circuitman in the Chicago Central Electrical Operating Department, with twenty years of service and eleven months of experience was electrocuted by a high voltage contact on Tuesday March 19, 1963. While wearing leather-palmed gloves, he grasped a downed wire at Iron Street and 37th Place. The wire, energized at 7200 volts through back-feed, had fallen onto a railroad. The current had been dissipating through the steel rail into the earth until being lifted and thereby opening the circuit. The thirty-eight-year-old Tyler, who resided at 1436 N. LaVergne Avenue, was survived by his wife Sylvia and their children Jeffrey and Corrine. †</p>
<p>FRANCIS X. MILNAMOW , a fifty-seven-year-old Area Operator in the Chicago Central Substation Operating Department with thirty-seven years of service and fourteen years of experience, was gravely burned on Sunday September 23, 1962 in a vault at 2422 S. Archer Avenue. An operating error, closing the ground disconnects rather than the line disconnects, caused the G&W automatic switch oil compartment to rupture and expel burning oil onto Milnamow. He passed away twelve days later on October 5, 1962. Milnamow was survived by his spouse Katherine and daughter Kay and buried at St. Mary’s Cemetery in DeKalb County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>FRANKLIN H. BERDINE , a Conveyor Attendant at State Line Station in Indiana with six and a half years of service and one year of experience, was mortally injured on Friday August 31, 1962. A coal dust explosion in a coal bunker below caused another explosion in a coal conveyor room at the top of the eighteen storey plant where Jim Galloway, of Lansing; Frank Colangelo of Chicago; Cletus Beare and George Turnquist, both of Hammond; and Berdine of Gary were working. The twenty-eight-year-old Berdine suffered second and third degree burns over eighty-five percent of his body causing his death seven days later on September 7, 1962. Berdine in buried at Kadesh Chapel Cemetery in Brooke County, West Virginia. †</p>
<p>FREDERICK H. NEUMANN , a thirty-two-year-old Maywood Area Lineman in the Western Division with thirteen years of service and two years of experience, suffered fatal injuries caused by a fall from a pole. He was working in Berwyn on Monday June 4, 1962. To avoid a tree while descending, he had grasped a clevis to swing around the pole. The clevis rotated, causing Neumann to plummet head first onto the concrete pavement approximately twenty feet below.</p>
<p>JUNIOR H. DITSCH , a Lineman in Rock River District with eleven years of service and six years of experience was electrocuted on Wednesday May 23, 1962 in Dixon. While cutting off an energized 2400-volt service, the cutter handle contacted his left arm above his rubber glove. Ditsch’s chest was against the grounded messenger wire and his left knee was touching an exposed through bolt. Electrical current passing through his body killed the thirty-six-year-old Ditsch.</p>

CLINTON E. BAKER , a Lineman in the Elgin District of the Western Division with eight years of service and three and three-quarters years of experience, was electrocuted on a job located south of Route 72 on the west side of Sleepy Hollow Road on Wednesday November 15, 1961. He and the other crew members, F. Miller, H. Schanks, Jr. and R. Schlink, Jr., were removing de-energized Copperweld 6A wires as part of a 4kV to 12kV conversion project. Miller and Schlink observed the wire about five spans to the north. Schanks, wearing rubber gloves, used a rubber hose to guide the wire onto the take-up reel. Baker was wearing leather gloves while operating the take-up reel controls at the rear of the ungrounded truck, standing on the ground that was still wet from the previous day's rain. It was subsequently stated that Baker had regarded the control handles as sufficiently insulated. While the wire was being removed, a rubber hose four spans away had slipped, and the wire contacted a live cutout, energizing the wire and the truck at 2400 volts. Baker received a lethal shock through his left hand through his body to the earth. The electrical contact left a deep dime-sized burn on his left thumb. The thirty-two-year-old Baker was survived by his wife Beverly and their eight-year-old son and five-year old daughter.

EDWARD R. DRAKE , an Electrical Maintenance Helper at the Powerton Generating Station in Southern Division with twelve years of service and three months of experience, was killed at work by an electrical contact on Tuesday October 31, 1961. Drake, thirty-five years old, was severely burned on his head, arms and torso when he attempted to clean an energized 22,000 volt disconnect switch with a rag placed on the end of a screwdriver. Drake was buried at Lakeside Cemetery in Tazewell County, Illinois. †

VIRGIL E. MOSS , a thirty-three-year-old Electrical Mechanic in the Freeport District of the Northern Illinois Division with eleven years of service and seven years of experience, suffered second and third degree burns over ninety percent of his body and succumbed to the injuries on Tuesday October 18, 1960. Moss contacted electrical parts energized at 34,500 volts after he had climbed onto substation equipment in Lena, presumably to inspect equipment. Moss was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Lee County, Illinois. †

DANIEL A. BOENKE, a thirty-three-year-old Lineman in the Chicago North Overhead Department with twelve years of service and nine years of experience, was working from a pole at Irving Park and Sheridan Roads on Monday May 30, 1960 when he lost his life. He had not yet fastened his safety strap when his bare head contacted an energized 2160-volt primary wire while the right side of his waist contacted a 120-volt service tap wire, causing him to lose his grip and fall twenty-seven feet to the paved alley. Survived by his spouse Greta *Hollander* and four children, the World War II veteran was buried at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago. †



DONALD R. WATSON , a twenty-nine-year-old Lineman in the Electric Operations Department of Northern Division with six years of service and two years of experience, was attempting to reinstall a service cable onto an insulator on a pole in Zion. His bare left arm contacted an uncovered dead-end bail that was energized while the right side of his chest contacted a grounded service drop messenger wire. The resulting 120-volt shock caused Watson's death on Wednesday August 19, 1959. The Korean War veteran is buried at Ascension Catholic Cemetery in Lake County. †

JOHN R. HUGHES , a Chicago South Overhead Department Lineman with eleven years of service and two years of experience, plunged twenty-six feet to a concrete alley at 74th Street and Vincennes Avenue on Thursday June 25, 1959. His fall was caused by his left shoulder contacting a secondary neutral wire while his right leg contacted a transformer case that was unexpectedly energized at 2400 volts. The twenty-nine year old Hughes, who served as a Marine in the Korean War, was survived by his wife Anna Marie "Nancy" of 817 E. 81st Street and is buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

GEORGE L. HEIDEN, a Lineman in the Electric Operations Department in the Northern Illinois Division with six years of service and three years of experience, slid thirty-one feet down a pole to the ground in DeKalb, Illinois. He was wearing his safety strap when his climbing spurs cut out of an icy pole on Tuesday February 10, 1959. The fall broke three bones in his right foot and injured his back. Blood clots that had developed in his legs travelled to his lungs and caused pneumonia. A large blood clot later travelled to his heart and caused the thirty-two-year-old Heiden's death on March 17, 1959, thirty-five days after the calamity.

VERNON C. ANDERSON , a twenty-five-year-old Lineman in the Electric Operations Department in the Northern Illinois Division with seven years of service and one year of experience, had been upgraded to a Crew Leader on Wednesday June 11, 1958 when he lost his life while working in Genoa, Illinois. He was shocked by contact with a wire that was supposed to be de-energized but was at a potential of 4160 volts above ground. His right foot, through his climbing spur, contacted a secondary wire running down the pole to a meter and his left leg contacted service wires. The electrical contact left burns on Anderson's left leg and right foot. Survived by his spouse Mary *Fanning*, Anderson, the US Army veteran is buried at St. Catharine Cemetery in DeKalb County, Illinois. †

WALTER A. WITTE, a Starting Lineman in the Western Division Electric Operations Department with five years of service and eleven months of experience, was fatally shocked on Friday September 20, 1957 in Glen Ellyn. The twenty-two-year-old Witte had stepped onto a fallen energized primary wire. Shrubbery touching his shoulder may have provided a path to ground potential. The electrical contacts burned his left shoulder blade and right heel. Witte is interred at St. Joseph Cemetery in Kane County, Illinois. †

WALTER C. HART , a fifty-two-year-old Lineman in the Electric Operations Department in the Northern Illinois Division with six and a half years of service and six years of experience, fell with a wood pole he was working on in Sycamore, Illinois on August 12, 1957. The pole broke apart two and a half feet above the ground line when a service wire was released. The fall caused a fractured pelvis and severed urethra. He passed away four days later at age 52. Survived by his spouse Pearl *Koppen*, Hart is buried at Belvidere Cemetery, Boone County, Illinois. †

BRUCE J. ST. PIERRE , a temporary Groundman in the Southern Division Electric Operations Department with one month of service and four months of experience, was kneeling on the ground to guide a pole into a hole in Reddick, Illinois when he was shocked and burned due to an electrical contact on Friday July 12, 1957. St. Pierre, aged twenty years, died from the injuries. Groundman Eldon Hertz, who was kneeling beside St. Pierre, was also shocked and burned but was able to return to work.

DONALD J. FISHER, a twenty-eight-year-old Starting Lineman in the Western Division Electric Operations Department with four years of service and two years of experience, was standing on the ground pulling in company-owned telephone wire in Elmhurst on Tuesday June 11, 1957. Fisher was electrocuted by current flowing through the telephone wire when it flipped up and contacted an energized 2400-volt primary wire. He was buried at Spring Lake Cemetery in Kane County, Illinois. †

GEORGE B. LITWIN, a thirty-three-year-old Mechanic 2nd Grade in the Chicago Central Substation Construction Department with fifteen years of service and five years of experience, was fatally burned by an exploding switch compartment in a vault at the Prudential Building on Tuesday August 21, 1956. Litwin was buried at Resurrection Cemetery in Cook County. †

ROBERT C. EVERHART, a Lineman in the Northern Illinois Division Electric Operations Department with nine years of service and three and one-half years of experience, was killed at work in Freeport on Tuesday August 21, 1956. While positioned on a capacitor pole, a chain holding a snatch block snapped apart. The falling winch line cut his safety strap in two. Everhart, thirty-two years old, suffered mortal injuries from the subsequent fall. Everhart, a World War II veteran, is buried at Ladies Union Cemetery in Jo Daviess County, Illinois. †

EDWIN F. PAWLIK, a thirty-three-year-old Crane Operator at Calumet Generating Station, Chicago, with nine years of service and one and one-half years of experience, was killed at work on Tuesday December 20, 1955. He had jumped off a braking coal car to avoid a crash. Pawlik rolled down coal pile and slid under a car; he was crushed by the low hoppers. He is interred at Resurrection Cemetery in Cook County. †

JOSEPH P. NOWACK , a Cable Splicer in the Chicago Central Underground Department with twenty-nine years of service and six years of experience, was fatally shocked by contact with a 120-volt transformer terminal block located in a vault at the LaSalle Hotel. Nowack was fifty-four years old when he died on Sunday September 18, 1955. He is interred at Resurrection Cemetery in Cook County. †

JOHN P. POSTELANCYK, JR., a thirty-three year old Lineman 1st Class in the Western Division Electric Operations Department, with seven years of service and ten months of experience, was killed by a high voltage contact at work on Friday August 12, 1955. Postelancyk had touched an energized 34,500 volt wire with his left hand while standing on a grounded steel tower in Batavia, Illinois. †

CLARENCE T. JORGENSEN, a thirty-six-year-old Assistant Shift Engineer at Ridgeland Station with fifteen years of service and three years of experience, was fatally injured on Sunday December 19, 1954 along with George A. Thorsen when he was struck by turbine pieces that flew apart due to defective casting and centrifugal force. Jorgensen is buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Cook County. †

GEORGE A. THORSEN, a thirty-four-year-old Assistant Shift Engineer at Ridgeland Station in Stickney with fifteen years of service and one year of experience, was fatally injured on December 19, 1954 along with Clarence T. Jorgensen when he was struck by flying debris from a defective turbine. Thorsen is buried at Irving Park Cemetery in Cook County. †

TERENCE LENNON, a fifty-six-year-old Electrical Mechanic in the Station Electrical Construction Department with twenty-eight years of service and eleven years of experience died, along with William E. Kenny, on October 19, 1954 at Fisk Station, Chicago. Lennon was testing 440-volt cables in a switchboard when the equipment short-circuited. The resultant arc-flash caused fatal third-degree burns. Lennon was buried at Ridgewood Cemetery in Cook County. †

WILLIAM E. KENNY, a thirty-three-year-old Mechanic 2nd Grade in the Station Electrical Construction Department with fourteen years of service and three and one-half years of experience, died, along with Terence Lennon, as a result of third degree burns he received. A short circuit and arc-flash occurred while testing 440-volt cables in a switchboard at Fisk Station on Tuesday October 19, 1954. Kenny was buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Cook County. †

RAYMOND H. MOCH, a Chicago South Electrical Construction Lineman with seven years of service and two months of experience, was electrocuted on Wednesday June 9, 1954 at 63rd Street and Mozart Avenue while working on a capacitor. His left forearm contacted a capacitor tap wire energized at 2160 volts while his left thigh contacted the grounded capacitor case. Moch was twenty-three years old when his life was ended. Concordia Cemetery in Forest Park, Cook County is his final resting place. †

<p>GERALD J. LANGDON, a sixty-three-year-old Cable Handler in the Chicago Central Cable Department with thirty-two years of service and eleven years of experience, collapsed when he lifted a manhole cover at 35th and Union Streets in Chicago on May 5, 1954, Wednesday. Langdon had previously suffered a heart attack. Survived by his widow Mary <i>McShane</i>, the Irish immigrant was buried at Saint Mary Catholic Cemetery in Evergreen Park, Illinois. †</p>
<p>THOMAS E. KENNEY, an Electrical Construction Lineman in Chicago Central with eighteen years of service and six years of experience died at the age of forty-seven while working on Friday January 22, 1954. He was electrocuted in a vault at the Art Institute. Kenney's hands were at ground potential while using a socket wrench on a cutout when his forehead contacted an exposed tap wire energized at 2160 volts.</p>
<p>CENTERVILLE SCOTT, a Boiler Cleaner at Crawford Generating Station with thirty-one years of service and experience, was killed because of a fall on Monday November 30, 1953. The sixty-year-old Scott fell twelve and one-half feet to the boiler room floor through an opening in the grating. Scott had served in Company G 816th U.S. Pioneer Infantry in World War One from Sept 3, 1918 until April 4, 1919. His death certificate states that he was a sixty year-old laborer residing at 6075 S. LaSalle in Chicago, born Sept 12, 1893 in Natchez, Mississippi, the son of Alfred Scott and Josephine Rooney, and the husband of Mary Scott. Scott is buried at Lincoln Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>GERALD R. FORTIN, born December 31, 1928 in Chicago, a Harvey Lineman 2nd Class with three and a half years of service and two and a half years of experience, was serving a secondary tie wire while leaning over secondary wires in Flossmoor on Friday June 19, 1953. Fortin, twenty-four years old, was electrocuted by equipment energized at 220 volts by contact at his hands and his stomach. Fortin is buried at Calvary Cemetery in Steger, Illinois. †</p>
<p>CLARENCE L. THOMPSON, born May 17, 1907 in Iowa, was a Western Division Operating Lineman with Public Service C^o with twenty-five years of service and two and a half years of experience. He was working aloft a pole in Oak Park when the pole fell on Wednesday April 29, 1953. The forty-six-year-old Thompson's head was crushed between the pole and the concrete alley. He was buried at Mount Emblem Cemetery in DuPage County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>ANGUS A. ULLOCK, birthdate August 15, 1904, was a forty-eight-year-old Principal Painter at Calumet Generating Station in Chicago with sixteen years of service and eight months of experience, when he plummeted from a beam to his death on Wednesday April 1, 1953. The channel iron that he was holding onto gave way, causing Ullock's terminal fall. He was survived by his spouse Margaret <i>Nicholl</i> and buried at Eden Memorial Park, Cook County. †</p>
<p>JAMES H. CONROY, JR., a Lineman 2nd Class in Electric Operating with two and one-half years of service and one month of experience, was electrocuted Monday January 19, 1953 in Joliet. The twenty-three-year-old Conroy succumbed to a lethal 2400-volt shock across his hands when he opened the primary neutral while wearing damp canvass gloves. Conroy is buried at Elmhurst Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>EDMUND J. KARLS, a Lineman 2nd Class in Northern Division Electric Operating with eleven years of service and four years of experience, was repairing a broken 2300-volt wire in Harvard on Saturday December 15, 1951. He had temporarily removed one rubber glove. Karls, thirty-three years of age, was electrocuted by bare-handed contact to the energized wire. He is buried at Saint Peters Catholic Cemetery in McHenry County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>HOWARD R. DIBBLE, a Lineman 1st Class in Northern Division Electric Operating with eleven years of service and four years of experience, was lowering primary wires from a pole in Grayslake on Friday August 24, 1951. His right arm, above the elbow, contacted a 2400-volt primary phase while the neutral wire was against his legs above his knees. The thirty-six-year-old Dibble perished from the current flowing through his body. He is buried at East Fox Lake Cemetery in Lake County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>MICHAEL J. O'BRIEN, a Boiler Mechanic at Crawford Generating Station with twenty-nine years of service and twelve years of experience, was working from a sitting position on a scaffold with his legs hanging over the side on Wednesday November 29, 1950. He either fell from the sitting position or fell when he attempted to rise. O'Brien, sixty years old, died because of a fall from the elevated height. He was interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Cook County. †</p>
<p>RAYMOND F. MENSCHING, a Lineman 1st Class in Northern Division Electric Operating with nine years of service and one year of experience, was on a pole in Northlake and relocating a set of blocks to pull wire on Thursday June 15, 1950. His arm or hand contacted a 120-volt secondary phase. His other hand, or his arm, or his body contacted the secondary neutral wire. The 120-volt shock killed Mensching at age twenty-nine leaving his wife Evelyn <i>Haberkamp</i>. He is interred at Elm Lawn Cemetery in DuPage County. †</p>
<p>RALPH DEVORE, born October 3, 1891, a Senior Lineman in the Public Service C^o Southern Division Electric Operating Department with twenty-five years of service and two years of experience, was standing on the ground with his left hand on a wire fence in Aroma Park on Monday November 4, 1948 when he suffered a fatal electrical contact. The boom of a digger truck contacted a 2400-volt primary phase wire, energizing the vehicle. The bottom part of the truck was touching the fence, which also became energized. The deadly current travelling between his hand and feet killed the fifty-seven-year-old Devore was survived by his spouse Mary and daughter also named Mary. He was buried at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Livingston County, Illinois. †</p>

<p>GEORGE L. VANDERHEI, a Substation Construction A Mechanic in the Northern Division with nineteen years of service and two years of experience, was walking along the top of a transformer at Substation A-24 in North Chicago when his head contacted an energized 33,000-volt buss. He was shocked and fell to the ground. Vanderhei's life of fifty-three years ended on Friday May 7, 1948.</p>
<p>JOHN E. FLEMING, a Rock River Line Construction worker, with four and a half years of service and two and a half months of experience, was working aloft a steel structure in Sandwich Substation on Wednesday November 19, 1947 when he crossed over to the energized side. The twenty-four-year-old Lineman 2nd Grade was electrocuted by contact with energized 33,000-volt equipment. The Marine veteran of World War II is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Jo Daviess County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>RAYMOND E. HARDY, a Grade B Clerk with eight years of service and five weeks of experience, fell through an access hole at Calumet Generating Station on Tuesday April 29, 1947. A section of the grate cover had been previously removed. The fall was fatal to the twenty-six-year-old Hardy. The World War II Army veteran is buried at Calvary Cemetery in Evanston, Illinois. †</p>
<p>WILLIAM L. LESCHMAN, JR., a Cable Helper in Chicago's Construction District N^o 1 with twenty years of service and eighteen years of experience, was hit by a vehicle on Monday February 3, 1947 and suffered fatal injuries that included a fractured skull and cerebral lacerations. A Jefferson Ice C^o truck had swerved out of the traffic lane in Chicago's Loop and struck him. His remains were cremated at Graceland Cemetery in Chicago. His spouse Meta and their children Robert and Sandra survived the forty-one year-old Leschman. †</p>
<p>JAMES MACMILLAN, a Mechanic 2nd Grade with four years of service and one and one-half years of experience, was working from a boatswain's chair at Powerton Generating Station on Wednesday July 24, 1946 before he fell and lost his life. He had placed his feet on an open window to steady his position. The sash chain holding the window broke. MacMillan slipped from the chair and plummeted twenty-five feet to the ground. Survived by his wife, Ellenora <i>Rogers</i>, the forty-nine year old Scottish immigrant was buried at Lakeside Cemetery in Tazewell County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>WILLIAM E. FALKENHAGEN, a Mechanic Class C in Western Division, with five years of service and six months of experience, had finished cleaning insulators in a cubicle at Elmhurst Substation on Saturday June 4, 1946. He then moved to work in the next cubicle. Falkenhagen was electrocuted by contact with an oil circuit breaker that was inadvertently back-fed at 4,000 volts. †</p>
<p>ANDREA BASSO, a forty-eight-year-old Conveyor Attendant at Crawford Generating Station in Chicago was crushed to death by a coal conveyor belt on Saturday November 3, 1945. Basso started his service at Calumet Station in 1923 and transferred to Crawford in 1932. Survived by his spouse Anna <i>Costa</i>, daughters Iole and Giidio, son Andrea John, the forty-eight-year-old Italian immigrant was buried at St. Mary Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>FLOYD COLEMAN, a Boiler Operator 2nd Grade with twenty-six years of service and twenty-four years of experience, was working at Fisk Generating Station on Wednesday July 11, 1945. An economizer tube burst while he washed the tubes with a water hose. The escaping steam and hot water scalded the sixty-two-year-old Coleman, causing his death. Survived by his spouse Ida and daughter Dora, Coleman is buried at Lincoln Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>WILLIAM L. JURICIC, a Mechanic Class B with thirteen years of service and three years of experience, was working at Joliet Generating Station on Monday January 8, 1945 when he was subjected to a blow to his head. A length of one and one-half inch diameter metallic conduit rolled while in the bender and struck him in his head at the temple. He continued working from 10:30 am until the normal quitting time. Juricic, aged forty-two, expired later that evening. He is interred at St. Mary Nativity Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>KELLY R. McDONALD, an Electric Operating Lineman in Western Division, with fourteen years of service and four years of experience, was standing on the ground while taping an energized secondary wire in Bensenville on Monday July 19, 1943. He contacted the energized wire with his bare left hand. The 198-volt shock across his body, between his left hand and his feet, was lethal to the thirty-nine-year-old McDonald. He is buried at the Odd Fellows Cemetery in Franklin County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>THOMAS R. HUMPHREY, an Electric Operating Lineman in Pontiac, Illinois with seven years of service and two years of experience, was working in Cayuga in Livingston County on Wednesday June 30, 1943. A tie wire touched his groin as he was tying in a primary phase wire. He fell across the primary conductors. Humphrey, aged thirty-one, was electrocuted by the high voltage conductor contacting his right arm above the rubber glove. Survived by his spouse Mary Lorene <i>Loftus</i>, he was buried at St. Patricks Cemetery in Woodford County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>THOMAS E. MACK, an Electric Operating Lineman in the Western Division, was twenty-seven years of age when he died in a workplace accident. He had accrued six years of service and one and one-half years of experience. On Sunday April 25, 1943, he was aloft a pole that had been straightened but where the surrounding earth was still removed. As a switch was being raised, the pole started to fall. Thomas Mack was electrocuted due to contact to an energized primary phase wire. He was buried at Warrenville Cemetery in DuPage County, Illinois. †</p>
<p>THOMAS W. WORSWICK, an Electric Operating Lineman in the Western Division with eleven years of company service and thirteen years of experience, had completed his work further down and then climbed higher on a tower and into energized equipment in Stickney, Illinois. Worswick, age forty-four, contacted the topmost conductor of a 33,000-volt line causing his death on Tuesday March 23, 1943. He was buried at Forest Home Cemetery in Cook County. †</p>

JOHN A. JANSEN, a Conveyor Operator at Waukegan Generating Station with seven years of service and five and a half years of experience, sustained severe burns while operating a tripper. The thirty-one-year-old worker's clothes were set aflame by an explosion in the coal bunker below. Jansen died three days later Tuesday February 9, 1943.

DONALD R. GRAYBILL, a forty-three-year-old Lineman 1st Class in the Rock River Line Department of the Illinois Northern Utilities Company, with twelve years of service and four and one-half years of experience, was electrocuted on Wednesday May 20, 1942. Graybill's shoulder had contacted a primary wire energized at 6900 volts when he slipped while working on a pole in Lindenwood in Ogle County. His safety belt prevented him from falling. The four other crew members lowered him with a line and applied artificial respiration until the Rochelle Fire Department arrived with an inhalator squad. The squad attempted to resuscitate Graybill for two hours until Doctors Bond and Warmolts pronounced him dead. Graybill, born on September 29, 1898 in Polo, was survived by his father, two sisters, a son Donald and a daughter Justine. The World War I veteran is buried at Fairmont Cemetery in Ogle County, Illinois. †

VICTOR ROCKOVSKI, a Crane Operator at Calumet Generating Station in Chicago with nineteen and one-half years of service and eight years of experience, was working on a coal conveyor when he became tangled between a drive pulley and a belt. The crushing injuries caused the fifty-four-year-old demise on Monday January 5, 1942. Survived by his spouse Alma *Nordengreen* and their five-year-old son Victor Ronald, Rockovski's final resting place is Cedar Park Cemetery in Cook County. †

RALPH L. RICHARDSON, an Electrical Engineer with sixteen years of service and fifteen years of experience at the Maywood Office of the Public Service Company, was struck by a car in a four-vehicle collision on Friday December 5, 1941 at a Melrose Park intersection. Richardson, aged forty-three, suffered a fractured skull and internal injuries and never regained consciousness; he died the next day at Westlake Hospital. Survived by his wife Elsie *Elrod*, he is buried at Cedar Bluff Cemetery in Winnebago County, Illinois. †

RALPH A. JOHNSON, a Turbine Operator with twelve years of service and seven and one-half years of experience was fatally burned on Monday November 17, 1941. The forty-five-year-old Johnson suffered scalding burns to his hands, arms and face while working on top of a water box condenser at Crawford Generating Station. He was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

LAWRENCE F. GILL, an Operating Lineman in Northern Division, aged thirty-nine, with nineteen years of service and twelve years of experience, died after contacting an energized primary phase wire and a secondary tie wire while shifting his position on a pole. He received a shock and fell to the ground. He died on Tuesday September 23, 1941. Gill was survived by his wife Vera M. *Cramer* and their daughter Patricia and buried at Town of Maine Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

LESTER H. BOONE was forty-three years old when he was electrocuted while working in Harvard, Illinois on Sunday April 13, 1941. He was a Lineman, 2nd Grade in the Rock River Line Department, who had acquired eleven years of service and experience. Boone made bodily contact between energized primary and secondary wires. Boone, who was survived by his wife Nellie *Schultz* and children Betty and Thomas, is buried at Mt. Auburn Cemetery in McHenry County, Illinois. †

EARL B. DIMITT, a Mechanic 2nd Grade in Station Construction, with sixteen years of service and five years of experience, received fatal electrical burns to his right hand and forearm while working at Front Street Substation in Chicago on Thursday April 10, 1941. Dimitt, forty-four years old at the time of his demise, left behind his spouse Minnie *Meyer* and six-year-old son Earl W. Dimitt. He was buried at Mt. Greenwood Cemetery in Cook County. †

JOSEPH F. ERNST, a forty-seven-year-old Station Mechanic with six years of service and twelve years of experience, was fatally burned Monday November 25, 1940 along with Joseph A. Farris, when a copper buss short-circuited while they were removing asbestos covering from a 4,000-volt buss at Clifton Substation. Ernst was survived by his wife Emma *Scheeler* and daughter Velma, is buried at St. Clements Cemetery in Peoria County, Illinois. †

JOSEPH A. FARRIS, a fifty-six-year-old Station Mechanic with seventeen years of service and twelve years of experience, was removing asbestos covering from a 4,000-volt buss at Clifton Substation in Chicago on Monday November 25, 1940. He perished, along with Joseph F. Ernst, when a copper buss short-circuited and caused a deadly arc blast. Farris, born March 20, 1884, left behind his wife Gertrude *Rochow* and was buried at Mt. Emblem Cemetery in DuPage County, Illinois. †



FLOYD McDONALD, JR. a Tree Trimmer in the Line Department, with four years of service and two years of experience, was working with an axe in a tree in Mt. Morris on Thursday November 7, 1940. He accidentally cut his support rope and fell twenty feet to the pavement, causing his skull to split open. McDonald was twenty-two years old at the time of the disaster. He is buried at Lyndon Cemetery in Whiteside County, Illinois. †

HARRY A. DRAKE, with eight years of service and two and one-half years of experience, was fatally injured on Monday June 24, 1940 at Substation N° 67 in Mazon, Grundy County. While standing on a transformer to remove potential fuses, his right elbow touched an energized 33,000-volt lead as his left arm rested on a copper tube lead from the transformer to a fuse mounting. Drake, a thirty-five-year-old Mechanic Class B was killed by the electrical contact. Drake, aged thirty-five was survived by his wife Katheryn and buried at Wesley Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †

EDWARD POWERS, a Lineman 3rd Class in the Rock River Division Line Department, with two and one-half years of service and one and one-half years of experience, was twenty-three years old when he was electrocuted from a primary wire contact on Tuesday May 28, 1940. Powers was interred at Oakwood Cemetery in Lee County, Illinois. †

SHERBURN J. FITZGERALD, a thirty-three-year-old 3rd Class Lineman in Chicago Overhead District N° 3, with fourteen years of service and ten years of experience, was working aloft a pole at 67th and Rhodes on Thursday June 29, 1939 before he fell and was killed. Unknown to him, his safety strap had disengaged. When Fitzgerald had leaned back in his belt, he plummeted from the pole. Sherburn, of 6841 S. Wabash in Chicago, was survived by his wife Helen *Stuecklin* and their son Charles, is buried at Cedar Park Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †

FRANCIS H. BURGESS, a Watch Electrician in the Generating Station Department with twelve years of service and three years of experience, was fatally burned on Thursday May 25, 1939 when a main switch on a generator at Northwest Station in Chicago exploded. Accidental grounding caused the violent blast. The resulting thermal injuries killed the thirty-seven-year-old. Survived by his wife Ida and six-year-old daughter Joan, Burgess was buried at Elmhurst Cemetery in Ramsey County, Minnesota. †

JOHN W. CAREY, a Substation Construction worker with five months of service and seniority, perished while working at the Dixon Station switchyard on Saturday February 11, 1939. Carey was electrocuted from a contact with an energized 33,000-volt buss. The twenty-seven-year-old was buried at Chapel Hill Memorial in Lee County, Illinois. †

NELSON E. BUCK, an Underground Superintendent with thirty-three years of service and twenty-three years of experience, was driving in foggy conditions at 87th Street and Cicero Avenue, just southwest of Chicago, on Monday December 5, 1938 when he was involved in a head-on crash with another car. His right leg and hand were fractured; he suffered severe lacerations and internal injuries. Buck died one week later on December 12, 1938, aged fifty-three years old, survived by his wife Lydia *Parsons*. He is buried at Acacia Park Cemetery in Cook County. †

ROBERT A. HURTIENNE, aged fifty-five, was a Station Electrical Construction Mechanic in the Oil Switch Repair Department. He had fifteen years of service and eight years of experience, when he was working at a 12,000-volt buss compartment on Saturday October 15, 1938 at Fisk Generating Station. The heavy buss compartment door fell and knocked him off a ladder. He fell approximately ten feet and suffered broken ribs; internal blood clots caused his death about one week later. Survived by his spouse Ruby, Hurtienne was buried at Acacia Park Cemetery in Cook County. †

ALOIS F. HERBST, a Southern Division Operating Lineman with eleven years of service and experience, had moved on a wood pole to give room to a second lineman on Saturday October 1, 1938. While moving, his body contacted a street light regulator clock while his right leg contacted a cutout jumper. Herbst received an electrical shock and fell to the ground, his life ending at the age of thirty-nine. Survived by his wife Maire, Herbst was buried at St. John's Cemetery in Will County near their child Robert who had died at age five in 1935. †

GLEN O. HAYES was a thirty-two-year-old Southern Division Operating Lineman 2nd Class with six years of service and one year of experience when he fell from a pole on Tuesday September 13, 1938. He was standing on a cross-arm putting his safety strap around the pole in the City of Lacon in central Marshall County. He lost his hand hold and fell to ground. A fractured spine caused Hayes's death. He was laid to rest at Yatesville Cemetery in Morgan County, Illinois. †

JOHN C. RAKOW, a Crystal Lake Operating Lineman 3rd Class with five and one-half years of service and nine years of experience, was startled by an arc in the clock compartment of a regulator time switch on Friday July 1, 1938. A safety strap was not used for the work aloft. The fourteen-foot fall from the platform broke Rakow's neck and ended his life at age thirty-two. Dundee Township Cemetery East in Kane County is his final resting place. †

LEROY A. BERGMAN, a Joliet Operating Lineman 2nd Class with eighteen years of service and two years of experience, had climbed to the top of a pole on Thursday April 7, 1938. Before putting on his rubber gloves, he took hold of two energized 2300 volt wires. The inadvertent contact killed Bergman, who was forty-three years old. He was survived by his wife Dorothy *Hartnett* and six children and was buried at Elmhurst Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †

EDWARD KINDINGER, a thirty-four-year-old Operating Lineman in Northern Division with eleven years of service and three and a half years of experience, was making a phase tap on Thursday July 22, 1937. His right arm, above the elbow, contacted a 2300-volt wire, while his left foot was touching a grounded service pipe. The resulting shock killed Kindinger. He was buried at Memorial Park Cemetery in Cook County. †

STANLEY SADJAK, an Underground Construction Cable Splicer in the Chicago High Tension N° 2 Department with fourteen years of service and eight years of experience, fell while descending a ladder into manhole at 55th Place and Prairie Avenue on Saturday April 24, 1937. The fall ended Sadjak's life at the age of thirty-four years.

FRANK R. ROWLING, a Northern Division Operating Lineman with seventeen years of service and seven years of experience, was descending a ladder set at a tree in Lake Villa on Tuesday March 16, 1937. The ladder fell while he was still fourteen feet above the ground. Rowling, aged fifty-three, died from the injuries. He is buried at Avon Centre Cemetery in Lake County. †

PETER J. GREGOR, a Foreman 2nd Grade in Electrical Construction, with fourteen years of service and three years of experience, was fatally injured at Fisk Station on Saturday February 27, 1937. A short circuit and arc-flash in an oil switch set his clothing on fire. The resulting burn injuries caused Gregor's death at age thirty-five years old. He was survived by his spouse Josephine *Rosenberger* and buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Cook County. †

MERVIN MUNSON, born July 25, 1905 in Wisconsin, a Lineman with less than seven years of experience, was electrocuted by contact to a transformer primary lead wire on October 21, 1936. The location of the accident is not recorded. Munson, thirty-one years old at the time of his death and survived by his spouse Ethel *Fitzgerald* and seven-year old son James, was buried at St. Patrick Churchyard in McHenry County, Illinois. †

WILFRED V. CORBEIL , Construction Electrician at Humboldt Park Substation in Chicago with one year of service and experience, passed away on unknown date. Corbell, age thirty-five, claimed that a growth in his chest was caused by contact with asbestos in 1936. The accident is recorded as occurring on Friday November 13, 1936. Corbeil, survived by his spouse Ada and children Earl, Blanche and William, is buried at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Cook County. †

ERNEST F. BLACK , a Northern Division Operating Lineman with thirteen years of service and ten years of experience, was working on a “wires down” job on Monday August 10, 1936, when he either stumbled or walked onto an energized wire and then fell onto a metal fence. The electrical contact was fatal to the thirty-two-year-old electrical worker. Black, survived by his wife Mildred *Artis* and their infant daughter Alice, was interred at Northshore Garden of Memories in Lake County, Illinois. †

LESTER F. LANE, a Cable Splicer in the Joliet Division Operating Department with fourteen years of service and nine years of experience, succumbed to a lethal electrical shock on Saturday March 7, 1936. Lane was killed at the age of forty-three when he contacted an energized wire above a pothead with one hand and a grounded cable with his other hand. Lane was buried in New Cambria Cemetery Macon County, Missouri, near his previously deceased wife Eleanor *Evans* (d:1920).†

DANIEL KOLADICK, a Street Lineman in Chicago District N° 2 with nineteen years of service and sixteen years of experience, fell from a pole at State and Division Streets. Koladick suffered a fractured skull that ended his life of forty-three years on Wednesday February 26, 1936. The Russian immigrant and World War I U.S. Army veteran was survived by his spouse Josephine *Mikula* and buried at St. Adalbert’s Cemetery in Cook County. †

HENRY J. SCHULDT, a Lineman 2nd Grade at District N° 3 in Chicago, was thirty-three years old and had accrued thirteen years of service and eleven years of experience when he was injured by a pile of cement bags falling onto his back while he was digging in a hole at 52nd Street and Hoyne Avenue on Tuesday October 8, 1935. He was paralyzed from the waist down and permanently disabled. Schuldt later died from uremic poisoning.

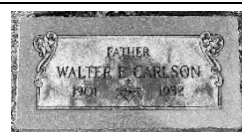
JOHN WILSON, a Street Lineman at Chicago District N° 3 with fifteen years of service and experience, fell from a transformer platform, on Wednesday February 27, 1935, at Dante and South Chicago Avenue while connecting a neutral. Wilson, who was forty-seven, suffered a skull fracture which caused his death.

GEORGE F. PRICE was a Lineman in the Rock River Line Department with six months’ service and experience. On an unknown date in 1932, he was untying energized phase wires in Mt. Morris in central Ogle County. One of the wires had contacted a bolt which energized a cross-arm brace. The energized brace fatally shocked thirty-three-year-old Price, who was buried at Haven Hill Cemetery in Richland County, Illinois. †



WINFIELD L. HOURAN, a thirty-four-year-old Tax Supervisor in the Secretary’s Office with eleven years of service and eight years of experience, was driving on a wet road in Wheaton, Illinois on Tuesday December 6, 1932. The car skidded off the road, sideswiped a culvert and crashed into a tree. His fatal injuries included a skull fracture. Houran, survived by wife Gretchen D. *Specht*, their sons, ten-year-old Winfield and four-year-old Thomas, was buried at Graceland Memorial Park in Porter County, Indiana. †

WALTER E. CARLSON worked as an Electrical Maintenance Man in the Station Electrical Construction Department. He had attained nine years of service and three years of experience when he received a severe shock and burns while climbing equipment to paint an oil switch at Crystal Lake Substation N° 86 on Wednesday November 9, 1932. His head contacted an electrified 33,000-volt transformer lead. The thirty-two-year-old Carlson passed away the following day, survived by his spouse Ruth and baby son Richard. He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Will County, Illinois. †



WALTER KOPLIN , a Lineman with one year of service and experience, was electrocuted by contact to a 4160-volt primary wire and a grounded wire on November 9, 1931. The thirty-one-year-old Koplín was working in Genoa on the day he died. Survived by his wife Bertha Mary *Ettner* and son Walter, he was buried at Marengo City Cemetery in McHenry County. †

JAMES W. CURRIE, an Operating Department Troubleman in Northern Division with ten years of service and experience, contacted an energized street light circuit on Sunday November 22, 1931 in Evanston and fell to the concrete pavement. The forty-eighty-year-old Sottish immigrant died en-route to the hospital. Currie, survived by his wife Catharine and adult children Mary and James, was buried at Memorial Park in Cook County. †

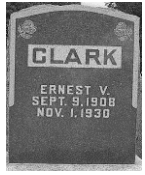
WILLIAM S. SULLIVAN , with seven years of service and four years of experience, was a Construction Lineman 2nd Class in the Maywood Construction Department. He contacted energized equipment on a pothead pole in Oak Park on Monday August 17, 1931 and fell to the concrete. The impact broke his neck and fractured his skull, ending the English immigrant's life at the age of twenty-four. Sullivan, survived by his spouse Helen and mother Mabel, was buried at Warrenville Cemetery in DuPage County. †



JOHN E. VIBELIUS , an Electrical Mechanic with six years of service and experience, was riding in a company car in Lockport on Friday June 19, 1931. While attempting to pass another car, the company vehicle drove to the left and off the road and was hit by an oncoming car. Vibelius, forty-four years old, died the next day, survived by his spouse Mabel *Crossen* and children Richard and Ruth, both younger than six years. He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Will County. †

CHESTER E. PAUGELS , an Operating Lineman 3rd Class in Northern Division with three years of service and two and one-half years of experience, was working in Evanston when he received a fatal shock from an electrical contact on Friday December 12, 1930. Without wearing rubber gloves, he attempted to place a rubber hose on an energized 2300-volt bare wire located in a tree. Paugels was twenty-years old when he died.

GEORGE M. PROUTY , a High-Tension Repairmen in the Oil Switch Repair Department, with one year of service and experience, was thrown eighteen feet to his death on Sunday June 22, 1930 when he came in contact with an energized high-tension wire at Northwest Station in Chicago. Survived by his spouse Emily *Mulac* of sixteen months and their infant daughter Marilyn Jane, Prouty was twenty-four years old at the time. He was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Allegany County, New York. †



ERNEST V. CLARK, a Construction Lineman in Joliet with one and one-half years of service and an undetermined amount of experience, was mortally injured by an electrical shock on Tuesday June 17, 1930. He contacted an energized phase wire at his right arm just below the shoulder while a telephone wire touched his right leg. Clark, twenty-two years old, died 138 days after the calamity. He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Vermilion County, Illinois. †



OTTO BARNHOUSE , a Construction Laborer, aged thirty-seven, with four months of experience, was struck and killed by a falling generator stack on Saturday May 17, 1930 in Niles Center (subsequently named Skokie), Illinois. Survived by his spouse Inez Belle *Grimes*, and seven-year-old son Horace and six-year-old daughter Dora, the World War I US Army veteran Barnhouse was buried at West Union Cemetery in Fayette County, Iowa. †

ERIC F. PRITCHARD, born February 21, 1888, was a thirty-three-year-old Electrical Mechanic who worked in Station Electrical Construction at the Chicago Edison C^o, and had accrued four years of service and one year of experience. Pritchard was installing a fault buss at Calumet Station on Sunday May 11, 1930, when a short circuit and arc flash occurred, causing third degree burns to his body and leading to his death. Survived by his wife Ann, the Welsh immigrant and World War I veteran, was buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Cook County, Illinois. †



Information compiled from accident reports, court records, cemetery files. † denotes Find A Grave website listing. T.Sheridan



IBEW
LOCAL 15
WORKERS
MEMORIAL DAY
APRIL 28th

Revised July 27, 2021