

19 January 1970

Coal Valley News
Madison, West Virginia

Gentlemen:

An account of the following death will be of interest to the community of Clothier particularly. Please publish if possible.

" Retired Coal Miner Lloyd
Castle, 79, of Vienna Virginia Dies

Funeral services were held Wednesday Jan. 14 for Lloyd Castle, 79, a retired coal miner. Mr. Castle, who lived at 2728 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, Virginia died Sunday at Fairfax Hospital of complication following a heart attack two weeks earlier.

Mr. Castle, who was born in Paintsville, Ky., went into the mines when he was ten years old and retired nearly sixty years later. During the time he was a coal miner, Mr. Castle participated in the 'Miners March' of the early 1930s in West Virginia that signalled the beginning of John L. Lewis' rise to power with labor unions.

Mr. Castle was a member of the United Mine Workers of America, and had been a member of the Odd Fellows more than 50 years.

His years in the mines were not without incident and danger. In 1954 he was trapped in a mine for 12 hours and given up for dead. According to a son, Mr. Castle was working in the mine when part of it collapsed. He pushed a fellow worker to safety, Mr. Castle's son said, and then was caught when several empty loading cars pinned his legs in. When Mr. Castle was found, the rescue team didn't hurry to the hospital his son said, because they thought he was already dead.

A fourth generation miner, Mr. Castle was also a relative of the feuding Hatfield and McCoy families of legendary fame. Several members of both sides of the feud, including some of his relatives still participate in the yearly basketball game that comprises the outward show of rivalry between the two clans in Matewan, West Virginia.

Mr. Castle is survived by his wife, Ora Lee; three daughters, Mrs. Ruby Lee Rife, and Mrs. Irene Kirby of Manassas Virginia, and Mrs. Emogene Gilliam of Fairfax, Virginia; three sons, Carl Ray of Alexandria Virginia, Cecil M. of Miami, Florida and Charles F. of Cincinnati Ohio; two brothers, Roy Castle of Tuscon, Arizona and Frank E. Castle of Miami; 29 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Everly Funeral Home with interment at Fairfax Memory Gardens, Fairfax, Virginia. "

Here is a man;
A man of Honor, Love, and Honesty.
A man without the aid of formal education;
Self taught, and a will to work, to live.
There are those who have died, and left
Great wealth, in land and money, and
Those to whom it was willed wasted it--
What he left behind, need not be willed.
His heirs are rich with what was Him.
His children each received his love,
Learned through him to be honest,
Each knows the strength of honor.
They felt his tender touch in time of pain,
Knew his care in time of illness;
His wrath, if needed, to right a wrong.
They watched him search out neighbors in need,
And help. Wanting always to give;
Was embarrassed to receive.
His brothers and sisters knew his sacrifices.
His wife will miss him most. It was she
That received the greater part of him, and his
Last days were spent in her service.
He will not plant his garden this year--
But for years to come it will leave a tender void.
Those in this world that met him were fortunate.
Those that have not met someone like him, have lost.
Let those who knew him tell of him to
Future generations, until time ends--
Here is a man--
He will not be forgotten!

by Cecil Marion Castle, Lloyd's son