

5 Sep 1947 Reno Evening Gazette

Mrs. Jim Butler Found Dead

"Tonopah- Mrs. Florence Butler, widow of the late Jim Butler, was found dead at her ranch home near here, Tuesday, it was reported today by Nye County Sheriff W.H. Thomas.

He said that the ranch employees told him that they found Mrs. Butler in the living room of her home shot through the heart with a high powered rifle. They told the sheriff they entered the house shortly after hearing the sound of the shot.

Although Mrs. Butler's death is believed to have been an accident, a coroner's inquest will be held Monday at 2:00 p.m., the sheriff said.

She was the owner of Little Fish Lake Valley Ranch, one of the largest in Nye County.

Mrs. Butler was 41 years old at the time of her death.. She was born in Tonopah and attended school in Goldfield. Surviving her are her sister, Mrs. Ed Slavin and her mother Mrs. George Bruno, both of Tonopah."

16 Sep 1947 Reno Evening Gazette

Butler Rites Held In Tonopah

Services Conducted in Masonic Hall

"Tonopah - Funeral services for Mrs. Florence Butler, widow of the late James Butler, Nye County stockman and daughter of O.K. Reed, pioneer miner and rancher of Southern Nevada, who died at her Little Fish Lake Valley ranch house Sept 4, were conducted in the Masonic hall Sunday afternoon, Sept 7 under the auspices of the Eastern Star of which she was a member. Last rites were in charge of Worthy Matron Julia Morrin and Worthy Patron Ed Harper, assisted by other officers of Turquoise chapter no. 10.

Burial was in the family plot in the Tonopah Cemetery and casket bearers were Lee Henderson, Tony Antoniazzi, Horace Campbell, James Currie, O.D. Welsch and Marco Bosovich.

Mrs. Butler was born in Tonopah of May 12, 1906, and lived most of her life in Nye county. She attended local schools and at an early age took a great interest in ranching and stock raising, one of the larger activities of her father. She and her husband operated the Little Fish Lake Valley Ranch for a number of years and continued to operate it following her husband's death a few months ago.

Survivors include her mother, Mrs. George Bruno of Tonopah; a sister, Mrs. Ed Slavin of Tonopah, an uncle, Ed Reed of Tonopah; three nieces, Jackie Carter of Reno, Lucille and Kay Slavin of Tonopah."