OTIS BROUSSARD
53, CIVIC LEADER
DIES SUNDAY
12/10/42

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church here for P. Otis Broussard, 58, former postmaster here for 23 years who died Saturday night at 10:16 o'clock of a heart attack.

The funeral cortege formed at the Bourque Hospital and proceeded to the Catholic Church for the religious rites which were conducted by the Reverend Edmund Duall, pastor. Burial was in the New Catholic cemetery here.

 Pallbearers were Elliott Cade, Felix J. Samson, Luther E. Terrier, Otis Blanchette, J. C. Harrington and M. E. Harrington.

Born July 3, 1883, the thirteenth child of a family of fifteen at Abbeville, Mr. Broussard attended the Mt. Carmel Academy here and the elementary schools until September 1898 when he entered Jefferson College.

He graduated from Jefferson College with the honors of his class, being the valedictorian and winning the gold medal for oratory. While a student at college he was president of the debating society, president of the athletic association, captain of the baseball team, secretary of the band, and captain of his military company.

Upon graduation he accepted a position as cashier of a bank at Estherwood and later returned to Abbeville to accept a position in the dock of court's office where he worked for a number of years as a recorder of mortgages and conveyances.

Mr. Broussard taught school a number of years under the administration of Superintendent A. M. Smith, now of New Orleans, and in 1911 he became connected with the law office of his brother, J. O. Broussard, working as a notary, abstractor of titles and collector.

In April, 1914, he became postmaster at Abbeville and served in that capacity 23 years. During his postmanship the rural route service was enlarged from 21 miles to 101 miles, from two miles a day to six miles a day here and the city mail delivery was started.

Mr. Broussard was instrumental in obtaining the new Federal postoffice building for Abbeville. In addition to his work in the post office he led other civic activities. He obtained from the Federal government the beacon lights at Shell Island and at Red Fish Point, and in 1919, together with the aid of Captain Peter Dyson, he started the project which finally gave the citizens of Pecan Island a government-dredged canal from White Lake to Pecan Island.

For more than 20 years Mr. Broussard has been president of the Holy Name Society which has fostered several improvements for the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic church and its property. He perfected the organization of the St. Mary Magdalen Building Association which completed the erection of the Catholic Presbytery during the pastorate of the Reverend J. R. Bolland. Mr. Broussard has also taken an active interest in the development of the Mt. Carmel Academy here.

In May, 1907, Mr. Broussard was wedded to Katherine Rose Peters of Connersville, Indiana. Surviving besides his widow are three daughters, Mrs. J. J. Burdin of Lafayette, Miss Therese Broussard and Miss Margaret Broussard of Abbeville; four sons, J. O. Broussard of Abbeville, Edward Chaffe Broussard of Abbeville, Martin Broussard, a student at Louisiana State university in Baton Rouge, and Otis Broussard who is now with the armed forces of the United States in the Australian area; and three grandchildren.

Also surviving are three brothers, L. O. Broussard of Abbeville, J. Otto Broussard of Abbeville, and Olivier Broussard of Rayne; two sisters, Mrs. J. Felix Broussard of Abbeville, and Sister Mathilde of the Mt. Carmel Academy of Lafayette.

Mr. Broussard suffered a heart attack Saturday afternoon while visiting at the home of his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. J. Felix Broussard.

The funeral arrangements were in charge of Paul U. Bourque of Abbeville.