

CIVIL WA

FINDLAY, OHIO, MARCH 3.—John Hart, sole survivor of the 21st OVI, and one of the oldest if not the oldest living Civil War veteran in the United States, will be 101 years old Tuesday.

As this gray-haired veteran nears his 101st birthday he is far more animated than when he was reported officially dead at a hospital in Nashville, Tenn., during the war.

Hart was hospitalized by typhoid fever. So serious was his condition that he overheard a



JOHN HART

physician remark one night to a nurse that Hart would never live to see another sunrise. The nurse listed him as "dead."

But Hart's strong constitution and will to live pulled him through the crisis and he lived to tell his great grandchildren his war experiences.

'Officially Dead'

Some 20 years later Hart learned for the first time that he was "officially dead" in the files at Washington when he made application for a pension. Supporting affidavits soon corrected the records.

Listed as Dead 80 Years Ago, He Plans for 102d Birthday

Press State Service

FINDLAY, March 2—Pronounced a poor risk and refused life insurance some 50 odd years ago, John Hart, believed to be the oldest Civil



War veteran in Ohio, will be 102 years old next Tuesday, Mar. 7.

A radio program, sponsored by Stoker Camp No. 8, Sons of Union Veterans, will be broadcast Sunday afternoon over Station WFIN with

Mr. Hart, past department commander of Ohio, Sons of Union Veterans, as interviewer.

Mr. Hart attributes his long life to a diet which is most vegetable, to the fact that he never drinks anything but goat's milk and water, and to getting an abundance of sleep. With two grandsons in the armed services, Mr. Hart is an avid reader of the newspaper and listens to all of the radio commentators. He hopes to live to see the day of victory.

Mr. Hart at one time was listed as dead. During his service in the Civil War he was a patient in a hospital at Nashville, Tenn. The physician in charge remarked to the nurse that Hart would not live to see another sunrise. Taking the doctor's word for it, the nurse listed him as dead, though he did not know this until many years later. When applying for a government pension he found that according to Washington records he was officially dead.

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LAST CIVIL WAR VETERAN BURIED

John Hart Extolled for Love of His Country, Community, Church

Extolling John Hart as a man interested in his country, his community, and his church, Dr. Joseph M. Broady, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, said at funeral services Friday afternoon for Hancock county's last Civil war veteran, these interests were obvious in his being a soldier, the love that his friends had for him, and his devoutness as a church man.

"Mr. Hart was interested in two worlds," Dr. Broady said. "His living to the age of 102 years made it apparent that he was interested in this world. And he was interested in the other world for he often remarked that 'a man had to die in order to live again,'" Dr. Broady said.

The Women's Relief Corps, the Daughters of Union Veterans, the Sons of Union Veterans, and their auxiliary and members of the American Legion attended the final rites at the First Presbyterian church in a body.

Stoker Women's Relief Corps, No. 72, conducted the ritual of the order at the church. Participants were Mrs. Maude Lee, Miss Marcia Hicklin, and Mrs. Curtis LaRowe. Mrs. Jennie Mark placed a flag on the casket. Mr. Hart had given her the flag about 20 years ago requesting that she do this at the services.

Burial was in Maple Grove cemetery with the Sons of Union Veterans as pall bearers. They were Carlton Edie, James Cole, Milton Adelsberger, John W. Burket, Marion Lentz, and Bert Crosser.

The Sons' ritual was conducted at the grave by Sherman E. Frost, commander, and Joe Gilliland, chaplain.

Four members of Company C, Ohio State Guard, served as casket guards. They were Staff Sgt. Ray Oswald, Sgt. Arthur Van Wormer, Sgt. Joseph Edwards, and Cpl. Harold Simpson. They also formed part of a firing

squad that gave a salute. Other members of the squad which was in charge of Lt. Edward Polk were Sgt. John Stough, HFC Tony Wolf, Pvt. Danny Andrus, and Pvt. Denver Gamble. HFC Carl White was the bugler.