



MILDRED NORMAN . . . the 'peace pilgrim'

## 'Peace Pilgrim' Dies in Crash

Mildred Norman, who for more than 25 years has been known as the "peace pilgrim" and who was to arrive in Elkhart today, was killed Tuesday in a traffic accident.

While the silver-haired woman had never given her age, authorities say she was 70 and a native of Cologne, N.J.

According to the Associated Press, Ms. Norman was killed in a two-car collision on Ind. 23, near Knox in Starke County. She was a passenger in a car driven by Uler Ward of Knox, who also was killed. Authorities say they were on their way to a religious service.

The driver of the other car, Dana McPheron of Knox, was reported hospitalized in fair condition.

The peace pilgrim "was a promoter of the cause of peace; this was her whole life," said the Rev. Robert Dick of Elkhart's Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

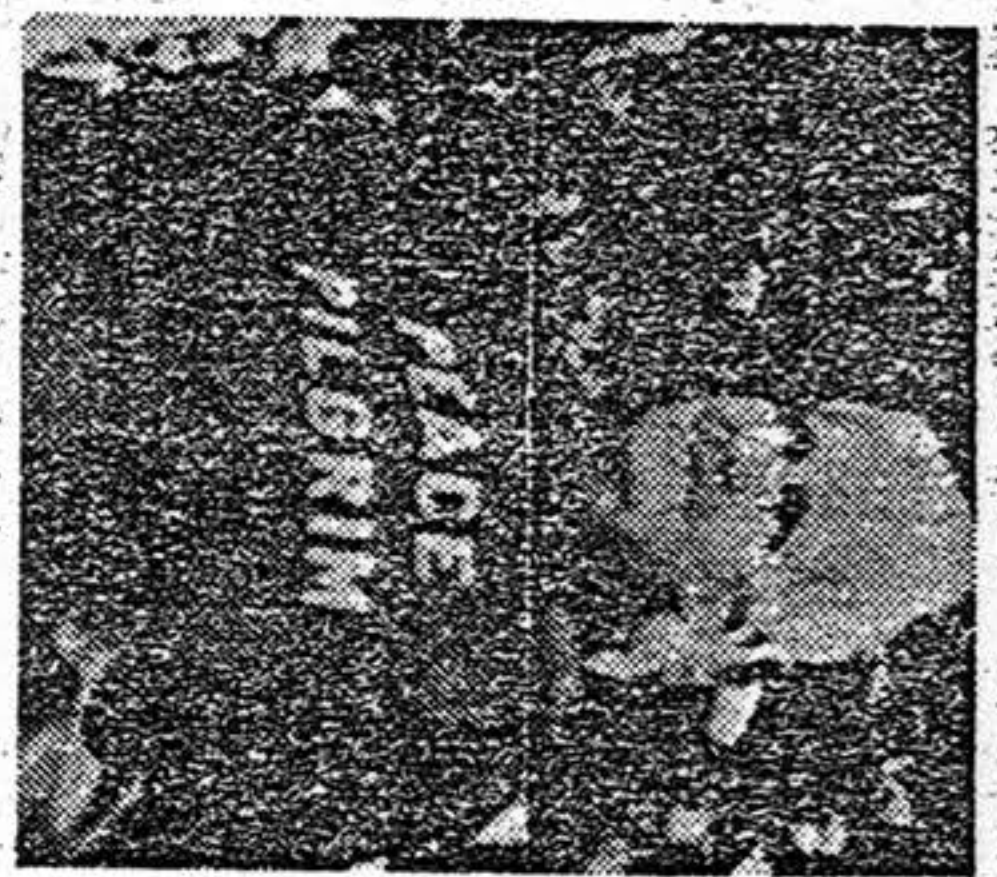
Dick and his wife, Helen, had planned to have Ms. Norman stay at their home during her Elkhart stay.

Having begun her initial peace pilgrimage on Jan. 1, 1953, she long ago met her first goal of walking 25,000 miles for peace. She had vowed to be a wanderer "until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food."

The peace pilgrim had been in Elkhart at least once before, stopping here in September 1976.

She had been scheduled to make several radio and television appearances on her latest stay in Elkhart, and was to have been the speaker Monday night for a meeting of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

Dick, who is a member of the fellowship, an international peace movement, said the meeting still is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the City Church of the Brethren at Benham and Wolf avenues.



MILDRED NORMAN RYDER  
Peace Walk ends in death

Senior Citizens Service Van and was transporting Mrs. Ryder, originally of Cologne, N.J., to the luncheon. Prior to her arrival in Knox, Mrs. Ryder had made several appearances at various churches in Elkhart

and Valparaiso this week in her trek across country doing evangelism work. Brameran noted that Mrs. Ryder had given up her worldly possessions, and did not drive a vehicle, to do evangelism work and earned the nickname "Peace Pilgrim" as a result of that work. Her original goal was to walk 25,000 for "the interest of peace." In six years she planned to cover all 52 states. "I shall remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food," she said in an Elkhart appearance Monday. Starke County Police who investigated had no report today of the accident although Brameran said, it remains under investigation. The Brameran Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

KNOX — Two persons were killed, including "Peace Pilgrim" Mildred Norman Ryder, 71, in a two-car, head-on collision on Ind. 23, just north of Knox, about noon Tuesday. The driver of the auto Mrs. Ryder was in, Euwell Ward, 70, of Rt. 3, Knox, died about 3:55 p.m. Tuesday in Starke Memorial Hospital. Deputy Starke County Coroner Roger Brameran, who investigated, said Mrs. Ryder was pronounced dead at the accident scene of head and internal injuries. Ward also suffered head and internal injuries, Brameran said. Mrs. Ryder, known nationwide as the "Peace Pilgrim" was enroute to a Senior Citizens Luncheon at Kooztz Lake when the auto she was in collided with a car driven by Dana McPheron, 18, of Rt. 2 Knox, who remains in Starke Memorial Hospital in fair condition. She suffered multiple cuts and bruises. Ward was a driver for the Knox

Crash kills 'Pilgrim,' driver