

# Upper Valley Pioneer Dies In California

David J. Jones, 92, pioneer Upper Valley resident, early day freighter in the southwest and worker on construction of the Mexican Central Railroad in Mexico, died in his home at Long Beach, Calif. Oct. 12. Friends in El Paso learned Thursday.

Mr. Jones, who came to America with his family at the age of nine years, worked as a youth in Pennsylvania coal mines around Wilkes-Barre. He followed the lure of the west and went to Kansas, where he joined a freighting party, operating between Topeka, Kan., and Leadville, Colo. He came to El Paso ahead of the railroads, buying a home in the Upper Valley in 1884 and settling down to agriculture. One of his proudest possessions was a gold medal, awarded at the St. Louis World's Fair for exhibition of the best bale of alfalfa in the show. He retired from active work in 1915 and moved to California.

Survivors include two nephews, Arden Gardner of Canutillo, and Ansel Gardner of Nutt, N. M., and a niece, Mrs. Don Orkney of Laurel, Miss.

Burial was at Long Beach.