

Walker Mason Rickards

Walker Mason Rickards was born 30 September 1855 in Sprigg Township, Adams, Ohio.¹ He was the oldest of three children of Henry K Richards and Martha J Dunbarr. Walker also had six half-siblings by his father's first wife. He was living with his family in Sprigg on the 1860 census², but by 1870, the family had moved to Ransom, Allen, LaSalle, Illinois, he was a farm laborer.³

By 1880, Walker was living with his half-brother in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory. They were both working as stationers.⁴ He married Freda Jacobson about 1880, and they had one son. On the 1900 census, he was a house carpenter, living with his wife in Allen, LaSalle, Illinois.⁵ They moved to Chicago, Cook, Illinois, in 1903.⁶ On the 1910 census, he was a house carpenter, living with his wife and son in Chicago, Cook, Illinois.⁷

Walker died of endocarditis on 29 February 1912 (leap day!) in Chicago, Cook, Illinois. He was buried in Ransom, LaSalle, Illinois.⁸



Walker Mason Rickards (image from *Ancestry.com*)

¹ Illinois Cook County Deaths, 1878-1984.

² United States Census, 1860.

³ United States Census, 1870.

⁴ United States Census, 1880.

⁵ United States Census, 1900.

⁶ Illinois Cook County Deaths, 1878-1984.

⁷ United States Census, 1910.

⁸ Illinois Cook County Deaths, 1878-1984.