

## Arthur Martin

June 22, 1903 – May 24, 1931

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### DYNAMITE EXPLOSION KILLS YOUNG MAN

Another deplorable tragedy that can be credited to the ruthless deception of that high explosive, dynamite, occurred Sunday morning when the life of Arthur Martin, aged 26 years, was suddenly snuffed out. At the same time his half brother, Carl Waddell was seriously, but not fatally hurt. The accident occurred near Brooks, about 7 o'clock, in the morning.

The young men had been engaged in building a road from the main highway to the home of J. R. Waddell, located about a mile and a half on Chestnut mountain above Brooks.

Saturday afternoon an attempt was made to blast away a section of a cliff in the pathway of the proposed road. A hole was drilled and four sticks of dynamite were placed in it. The charge, however, failed to explode. The young men were afraid to work around the dynamite any more Saturday afternoon but on, early Sunday morning they obtained another stick of dynamite and inserted it in the hole, thinking that the fifth stick would set off the other four that had previously been placed there.

Each of the boys went in opposite directions to warn persons coming up or down the road of the blast. The dynamite went off, and the boys thinking that all had exploded, returned to the scene. Martin was the first to arrive and as he did so the four sticks of dynamite which had failed to explode went off, blowing his body about 50 feet. The top of his head was blown off and he was badly mangled about the body. Waddell's narrow escape from a like experience was no doubt due to the fact that he was in a hurry to investigate the effect of the first explosion. Waddell sustained a fractured leg and was severely cut about the face. He never lost consciousness. He was removed to the Hinton Hospital.

Arthur Martin graduated with the 1927 class of the Hinton High School. He was an exemplary young man and deservedly popular with the people. His untimely death has brought genuine sorrow to many hearts.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. J. R. Waddell and step father, also three half brothers, Carl, Leonard and Theodore Waddell.

Funeral services will be held today (Wednesday) at 1 o'clock, in the Brooks church with Rev. John Garten in charge. Burial will be made in a cemetery in Pipestem District.