

SOMERSET TWP.

Police chief dies

By **NICK TABOR**

DAILY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

After 15 years as Somerset Township's chief of police, Clarence Perry planned to retire this August and return to Michigamme, the Upper Peninsula town where he grew up — a four-hour drive from the Mackinac Bridge, practically enclosed in wilderness.

There he would spend his remaining years fishing, hunting and taking care of his four English Setters.



Perry

Other than an annual month-long trip to Marquette for a dog show, Perry's job left him little time for those pursuits, his daughter Constance Perry said.

But heart troubles put an abrupt and unexpected end to those plans.

Fire department employees found Perry dead in his bed at 8 a.m. on Monday, about seven hours after he died in his sleep.

He was 65.

Friends, family members and co-workers said they'll miss his sense of humor, his forthrightness and his effectiveness at controlling traffic.

"He was a teddy bear," said Mollie Wolf, former Somerset Township treasurer. "If you needed help he was always there. But he was straight-through a police officer."

Assistant Police Chief Eric Stolberg agreed.

"He was definitely old school," Stolberg said. "He

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