

Rapid City Daily Journal
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INDIAN FIGHTER RECEIVES AWARD

Lead, Dec. 9 – Presentation of the Purple Heart for a wound he received fighting Indians in 1876 was made to Maj. [sic] Charles A. Windolph at his home here this noon.

Col. Paul W. Mapes, officer in charge of the South Dakota military district, Camp Rapid, pinned the award over the Congressional Medal of Honor which Windolph had won twice [sic], once in 1871 and again in 1878.* Lt. Col. Paul Shields, in charge of the Rapid City sub-district of the organized reserve, read the citation in the presence of Windolph's family and a few close friends.

On lighting a cigar and retiring to a chair near the fireplace in his home at 614 W. Main, immediately after the ceremony, Windolph commented, "Well, I'm proud of it – I earned it."

Windolph was shot the morning of June 26, 1876, as he was escorting water carriers with Col. W. F. [sic] Benteen's troops at the time of the Custer massacre.

Present for the ceremony were his son-in-law and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. G. C. Fehlman of Lead, a son and his wife, Robert and Mrs. Windolph, Buffalo; a nephew, Frank Zuhr; Mrs. Maria Zuhr and George Halloran of Lead.

* -- Windolph was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor on October 5, 1878, for his actions at the Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876. He was not awarded the medal in 1871.