

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Death in a Small Town* Comprehension Questions

**Directions:** All responses must be in a complete sentence format. Anything less will result in a loss of points.

1. What was the name of the reclusive man at the center of this story?
2. This incident took place in what city and state?
3. What kind of store did Mr. Ridley own in town?
4. The town folks had what kind of idea about him?
5. What was Ridley's favorite subject of conspiracy theories?
6. Why did he place an emergency call to 911?
7. What did he claim was the cause of this?
8. Did anyone know that Alvin was even married?
9. What did the police suspect actually happened to Virginia Ridley? Describe how this conclusion reached.
10. Name the friend of Mr. Ridley that last saw Virginia alive?
11. What were some of the rumors that were started about this incident?

12. During the 1980's what did Virginia decided to stop doing?
13. The walls of the Ridley home were covered with what? Why was this discovery significant.
14. What unique item did Mr. Ridley wear into the courtroom the first day?
15. How long did Alvin testify at his murder trail?
16. What was the final decision of the jury? Did everyone agree with this verdict?
17. Where is Mr. Ridley today & what is he doing?
18. What literary character was Alvin Ridley ultimately compared to?