

J. Walter Blandford

(- 12 Mar 1898)

Blandford. On Saturday, March 12, 1898, at 1760 Q street northwest, J. Walter, beloved husband of Alice Middleton Blandford. The remains will be removed from the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. R.L. Middleton, 1333 30th street northwest, to Scottish Rite Cathedral, 1007 G street northwest, Tuesday, March 15 at 11 o'clock. Friends and relatives are invited to attend the funeral services are invited to attend the funeral services there at 2:30 p.m. Interment private.

The Evening Star, March 12, 1898

Walter Blandford Dead

**Private Secretary to Attorney General Gripps Succumbs to the Grip
Was a Popular Official and Prominent in Masonic Circles--
Funeral Tuesday Next**

Mr. J. Walter Blandford, private secretary to Attorney General Griggs, died this morning at the residence 1760 Q street northwest about 11 o'clock. He was taken ill some time ago with the grip, the effects of which caused his death. A blood clot formed on his brain. Mr. Blandford was about thirty years of age, and had only been married about two months, his wife being Miss Middleton. He was most popular with every one who knew him, and was a prominent Mason. He first became connected with the Department of Justice when Mr. Olney was Attorney General.

When Mr. Olney was made Secretary of State he followed him to the State Department, remaining there until Justice McKenna became Attorney General, when he returned to the Department of Justice, remaining there under Attorney General and holding the office of private secretary at the time of his death. His remains were removed this morning to the residence of his wife's brother, Mr. R.L. Middleton, 1333 30th street northwest. The funeral will take place from there at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. The interment will be in the Congressional cemetery under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity.

He was a member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 19, F.A.A.M., and of Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T., also of Almas Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Rev. Mr. Randall of the M.P. Church will conduct services at the house.

The ability of Mr. Blandford had been appreciated by many distinguished men. In the year he was associated with Justice McKenna, former Attorney General, he gained the confidence, love and esteem of his superior. When Mr. McKenna went on the Supreme Court bench he was anxious that Mr. Blandford should accompany him; but Attorney General Griggs also desired the services of such an able man, and induced Mr. Blandford to remain with him.

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Funeral Services

Last Rites Over Remains of J. Walter Blandford

The funeral of the late J. Walter Blandford, private secretary to Attorney General Griggs, will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 1007 G street northwest. It

was at first the intention to have the burial take place from the residence of the brother-in-law of the deceased, Mr. R.L. Middleton, 1333 30th street northwest, and was so published. When the fact was considered, however, that the services would be attended by so many of the friends and Masonic brethren of the dead man, it was decided to have them at the cathedral, which is better fitted for the purpose than a private residence.

The body will lie in state at the cathedral from 11 to 2:30, when the service will begin. They will be under the auspices of Lafayette Lodge, No. 19; Lafayette Royal Arch Chapter, No. 5, and Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T. Rev. Louis Randall of the M.P. Church will officiate.

The active pallbearers will be Messrs. George H. Walker, W.B. Hibbs, J.H. Small, Thomas T. Keller and Sinclair R. Sheibley. The honorary pallbearers will be Messrs. Frank A. Branagan and Percy M. Cox, and Col. Cecil Clay and Maj. Frank Strong. The interment will be in the Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, March 16, 1898

Laid to Rest

Last Rites of Church and Lodge Over J. Walter Blandford

The funeral of J. Walter Blandford, former private secretary to the Attorney General, took place yesterday afternoon at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 1007 G street northwest. The hall was hung with crepe and decorated with Easter lilies and smilax. The bier was placed in the center of the room and the knights mounted guard over it until the time of interment. The services at the cathedral were conducted by Washington Commandery, No. 1, K.T., Eminent Sir Knight C.P. Coldwell, acting grand commander, reading the ritual. Rev. J.C. Randall of the M.P. Church read the service of his church. A choir from Washington Commandery, consisting of Sir Knights Johnson, McFarland, Pierson, Rice and MacLeod, rendered the music. At the cemetery, Lafayette Lodge, No. 19, F.A.A.M., conducted the regular blue lodge service for the dead, Grand Master Thomas G. Moore officiating. The active pallbearers were George H. Walker, Thomas T. Kellar, Jefferson B. Cralle, J. Henry Small, jr., S.B. Shibley and John B. Rider. The honorary pallbearers were Col. Cecil Clay, Maj. Frank Strong and Messrs. Percy M. Cox, Richard Randolph, Frank A. Branagan and James Hooe. There were many floral tributes from the Department of Justice, Lafayette Lodge and Washington Commandery, respectively, as well as from other sources.

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In Memoriam

Blandford. In remembrance of our beloved cousin, J. Walter Blandford, who departed this life March 12, 1898. We who were privileged to know him, sit with bowed heads and hearts bathed in the deepening shadows of sorrow. His passing removes from our midst one who smoothed the rugged places of life and scattered sunshine along our pathways. By kindly ministries he enshrined himself in our hearts and affections, so that the passing of the years and their consequent forgetfulness shall not serve to dethrone him. Oh, merciless death! Oh, cruel grave! We commit him into thy embrace and keeping, knowing thou must surrender him when the trumpet sounds upon resurrection morn.

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Ridgely