

## Robert J. Caynor

( - 7 Mar 1954)

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**Caynor, Robert Jackson.** On Sunday, March 7, 1954, Robert Jackson Caynor of 560 Peabody st. n.w., Washington, D.C., beloved brother of Virgie Treassa Caynor. Friends may call at the Ives Funeral Home, 2847 Wilson blvd., Arlington, Va., where funeral services will be held on Tuesday, March 9, at 2 p.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

*The Evening Star, March 8, 1954, p. B1*

### **Two Burn to Death After Car Hits Parked Auto**

#### **Brother and Sister Are Trapped in Crash On Shirley Highway**

A District woman and her brother met a fiery death yesterday when their automobile overturned on Shirley highway near the Pentagon and burst into flames.

The victims are Miss Minnie Caynor, 74, and Robert J. Caynor, 63, both of 560 Peabody street N.W.

Both were out for a Sunday drive when their car clipped the left rear fender of a parked auto, skidded about 15 feet and rolled on its side.

#### *Gasoline Pours Out*

Passersby rushed to aid the overturned vehicle. They tried vainly to open the doors and to disconnect the ignition wires to cut off the motor.

According to one witness, Thomas F. Kearney, 25, of 1131 North Kensington street, Arlington, "the engine was still going and gas was pouring out over the street." He said he saw a man and a woman "crumpled up on the inside with the woman on the bottom against the door on the driver's side."

Suddenly, he said, the gas burst into flames and "the fire started real fast. There was nothing we could do. I believe they were unconscious."

#### *Interior Burned Out*

The fire enveloped the car in seconds and burned out its interior and its tires.

Arlington firemen put out the fire in about 6 minutes. Last rites were administered at the scene by the Rev. Thomas F. Hesnan of St. Charles Catholic Church, Arlington, the fire department's chaplain. The couple was pronounced dead by Dr. W.C. Wellburn, Arlington coroner.

Park Police said the Caynor car struck the fender of one operated by William Szabo, 36, of New York City. Mr. Szabo, police said, had pulled off the road to look at a map. The accident occurred near the Pentagon power plant.

Mr. Szabo was not charged, police said, but will appear at a hearing before United States commissioner Earl W. Fletcher in Alexandria at 2 p.m. tomorrow in connection with the crash.

#### *One Sister Survives*

Police said they believe Miss Caynor was driving the car.

Both victims were born near Bowling Green, Va., and came to the District 49 years ago. Mr. Caynor once worked for the Capital Transit Co., relatives said, but more recently worked as a watchmaker.

They are survived by a sister, Virgie, about 65, also of the Peabody street address.

The bodies of the two victims were taken to Ives funeral home in Arlington, where funeral services are scheduled for 2 p.m. tomorrow. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.