

## William E. Colburn

( - 17 Jun 1950)

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**Colburn, William Edward.** On June 17, 1950, at his residence, 2701 14th st. n.w., William Edward Colburn, beloved husband of Mrs. Frances V. Colburn, father of Mrs. Edna Walton, Mrs. Dorothy Olds and Mrs. Ruth McAleer, all of Washington, D.C.; William E. Colburn, jr., of Los Angeles, Calif., and Joseph H. Colburn of Douglaston, Long Island, N.Y.; brother of Albert E. Colburn of Los Angeles, Calif. Services at the S.H. Hines Co. Funeral Home, 2901 14th st. n.w. on Tuesday, June 20, at 11:30 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.



*The Evening Star, June 18, 1950, p. A28*

### **William E. Colburn Dies at 81; One of First Corcoran Cadets**

William E. Colburn, 81, a charter member of Washington's famous Corcoran Cadets, died yesterday at his home, 2701 Fourteenth street N.W. He had been ill for several months.

Mr. Colburn was one of approximately 100 remaining members of the crack drill corps, organized by a handful of teenage Washington boys who toted broomstick "rifles" until they obtained old Army rifles. He was 14 at that time.

Mr. Colburn was once quoted as saying his first long pants were the uniform of the corps. He was proud of being one of the cadets present at the dedication of the Washington Monument. He marched with the corps in the first inauguration parade of President Grover Cleveland.

### *Life-Long Washingtonian*

A life-long resident of Washington, Mr. Colburn was the son of the late Laura and William Colburn. He was graduated from Spencerian Business College here in 1895.

For about 25 years he was in the cement contracting business with a brother, the late Joseph Colburn. Later Mr. Colburn was a building superintendent. He was retired last February from the Washington Loan & Trust Co. where he worked for about five years.

### *51-Year Shriner*

Mr. Colburn was a Shriner for 51 years and held the fidelity medal from the grand lodge, of Masons as the oldest man in years of membership in Pentalpha Lodge No. 23. He was a member of Mt. Vernon Chapter No. 3, Royal Arch Masons, and Columbia Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Francis V. Colburn, whom he married 54 years ago; three daughters, Mrs. Edna Walton, Mrs. Dorothy Olds and Mrs. Ruth McAleer, all of Washington; two sons, W.E. Colburn, jr., of Los Angeles; Joseph B. Colburn, Douglaston, Long Island, and a brother, Albert E. Colburn of Los Angeles.

Funeral services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at Hines funeral home, 2901 Fourteenth street N.W.