

Greer Judson Crymes

(27 Aug 1859 – 9 Jan 1958)

Crymes, Greer Judson. On Thursday, January 9, 1958, at his residence, 2612 Dewitt ave., Alexandria, Va., Greer Judson Crymes, cousin of the late Katherine C. Crymes, father of Leonard O. Crymes of Bethesda, Md., and William N. Crymes of Washington, D.C.; grandfather of Miss Betty K. Crymes of Washington, D.C. Friends may call at the Wheatley Funeral Home, 809 King st., Alexandria, Va., where funeral services will be held on Monday, January 13, at 11 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

The Evening Star, January 10, 1958, p. A18

Greer Crymes, 99, Believed To Be Oldest Alexandrian

Greer J. Crymes, 99, believed to be Alexandria's oldest citizen, died yesterday at his home at 2612 Dewitt avenue.

The son of a Confederate soldier, he himself fought in the Indian wars. On his 99th birthday last August 27 he expressed a desire to live to be 100 although the world was "going to pot."

A lifelong Southern Democrat, Mr. Crymes voted for President Eisenhower in 1952. He did not vote in the last election because of ill health. President Eisenhower sent him congratulations on his 97th birthday.

Mr. Crymes was born on a farm near Meherrin in Lunenburg County, Va. He served in the Army from 1881 to 1891, and was discharged at the old Washington barracks here, where Fort McNair now stands. From that time until his death, he made the Washington area his home, living first in the city, and later, in 1925, moving to Alexandria.

Helped Found Church

There, he was a founder, and elder emeritus of the First Christian Church. His family recalled that there was not a verse in the Bible with which he was not familiar, and that until recent months he read the Bible faithfully.

A member of a long-lived family, Mr. Crymes outlived three brothers and one sister.

He once attributed his longevity to the fact that he neither drank or smoked, lived right, and believed in the Golden Rule.

He had several falls in recent years, breaking his hip and thigh, but always mended with amazing speed. However, shock from a fall in December, when he broke his arm, contributed to his death.

Worked Until 78

Mr. Crymes became a sub-contractor here after leaving the Army, and helped build the old Army War College.

Later, he was associated for many years with the Prudential Insurance Co. For the last 20 years of his working career, until he was 78, he was employed in the safe deposit department of the Washington Loan & Trust Co. at Seventeenth and G streets N.W.

His wife, Katherine, died in 1949, Mrs. Crymes is survived by two sons, Leonard G., 5606 Alta Vista road, Bethesda; and William N., 4215 Twelfth street N.E., administrative officer for the Bureau of Customs. A granddaughter, Miss Betty Crymes, of the Twelfth street address, also survives.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at the Wheatley funeral home in Alexandria, with burial in Congressional Cemetery.