

Joseph H. Hughes

(- 11 Jun 1887)

The Evening Star, June 13, 1887

Sudden Death of a Policeman

Sergeant Jos. Hughes, of the police force, died quite suddenly Saturday afternoon, at the corner of 6th and M streets southwest of hemorrhage of the lungs. Sergeant Hughes had been in ill health for some months, but, feeling much better, he left his house, on 6th street, between L and M, Saturday afternoon for a short walk. He had reached the corner of M street when he was taken with a hemorrhage and fell to the pavement. He was at once taken into the house of Mrs. McCauley, and expired before medical attendance could be secured. Sergeant Hughes was a native of this city, born and raised in South Washington, and was 46 years of age. He was appointed a member of the police force on 31st of January, 1867, and was regarded as one of the most efficient officers on the force.

The Evening Star, June 14, 1887

The Late Sergeant Hughes

Major Moore has issued an order in relation to the death of Sergeant Hughes, saying he had made a record in his twenty years' service which should be emulated by every member of the force, and directing that a detail of thirty-two men and the usual number of sergeants shall act as escort to his remains at his funeral, to take place from his late residence, No. 1212 6th street, southwest, this afternoon at four o'clock. The arrangements will be in charge of Lieut. Vernon, commanding the fourth precinct.

The Washington Post, June 12, 1887, p. 2

A Policeman Drops Dead

Sudden Death of Sergt. Hughes, of the Fourth Precinct

Sergt. Joseph H. Hughes, of the police force, who for years has been on duty in the Fourth precinct, died suddenly yesterday afternoon of a hemorrhage of the lungs. He had been in ill health for some time, but was feeling so much better last evening that he determined to take a walk. Just before leaving his house, on Sixth street, between M and L southwest, he obtained permission from his physician, Dr. McKim, to take a trip down the river today, and then started out in very good spirits. He had just reached the corner of Sixth and M streets when he was taken with a hemorrhage and fell to the pavement. A number of people immediately rushed to his assistance, and he was carried into the house of Mrs. McCauley, where he expired before a physician could be summoned. Sergt Hughes was one of the best known and most respected officers on the force. He became an officer in 1866, soon after the department was first organized, and since that time he has been known as a man of integrity, courage and discretion. He was made a sergeant in 1874, and has frequently since then distinguished himself as an efficient officer. At the time of his death he was the sergeant commanding, under Lieut. Vernon, the Fourth precinct. Sergt. Hughes was very popular with his brother officers, and the announcement of his death was received with regret throughout the city last night. The arrangements for his funeral have not yet been made.