

Blanche Pulizzi

(- 14 May 1957)

Pulizzi, Blanche L. on Tuesday May 14, 1957, at her late residence, 3912 Harrison st. n.w., Blanche L. Pulizzi beloved daughter of the late Irene and Captain Venerando Rando Pulizzi and aunt of Mrs. Joseph H. Bien. Friends are invited to call at the Bethesda Chevy Chase Funeral Home of Robert A. Pumphrey, Bethesda, Md. Where services will be held on Friday May 17 at 2 p.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.



The Evening Star, May 15, 1957, p. A42

Blanche Pulizzi Dies; With Schools 50 Years

Miss Blanche L. Pulizzi, who served the District public school system 50 years, the last 17 of them as principal of Janney School, Wisconsin avenue and Albemarle street N.W., died yesterday at her home after a long illness.

Miss Pulizzi, who was 85, retired in 1941 after a teaching career which began in 1891 as a first grade teacher at Corcoran School. She then taught at Force, Addison, Filmore and Berret Schools, before she became principal of the Industrial Home School 25 years after her teaching career had begun.

She served as teacher and principal at the Industrial Home School and later Tenley School before she was appointed administrative principal at Janney School in 1934.

Native Washingtonian

A native Washingtonian, Miss Pulizzi was an active civic worker, especially in the Friendship area, where she was vice president of the Friendship Citizens Association for 22 years. During this time, Miss Pulizzi led a drive to get a traffic light for the Wisconsin avenue-Albemarle street intersection to protect the Janney School crossing, and worked in behalf of the Tenley branch of the Public Library.

In 1905 she led a movement to get closed vestibule cars for streetcar motormen to provide protection against the weather after she had noticed snow blowing into a motorman's face in one of the old open cars.

For these achievements and other civic efforts she was honored at a banquet by the Friendship Citizens Association when she retired.

Miss Pulizzi, who lived at 3912 Harrison street N.W., attended old Central High School, Wilson Teachers College and George Washington University.

Kin Served in Lincoln's Time

She was the daughter of the late Capt. Vennie R. Pulizzi, USA, and the granddaughter of the late Capt. Ira Goodnow, doorkeeper of the House of Representatives during Lincoln's administration. Her paternal grandfather, Felice Pulizzi, served several years as director of the Marine Band. Her brother, the late Talbot O. Pulizzi, was named for his maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Talbot Pulizzi, of the Maryland Talbots.

Miss Pulizzi is survived by a niece, Mrs. Joseph H. Bien, with whom she lived.

Friends are invited to call at the Robert A. Pumphrey funeral home in Bethesda where services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.

The Washington Post, May 16, 1957, p. B2

Blanche Pulizzi Dead; 'Grand Lady' of Schools

Blanche L. Pulizzi, 85, retired administrative principal of Janney School who had served 50 years in the District public school system died Tuesday of cancer in her home, 3912 Harrison st. n.w.

Miss Pulizzi, once called the "grand lady" of the public school system, retired in 1941 after being principal of Janney School, Wisconsin ave. and Albermarle st. n.w., for 17 years.

She had been principal of the Industrial Home School in 1916 and later of Tenley School and Wesley Heights Annex (now Horace Mann) before going to Janney.

Born at 11th and G sts. n.w., she was a descendant of the Talbot family of Maryland. Her great-grandfather, Felice Pulizzi, fought the pirates of Tripoli in 1793 and organized the U.S. Marine Band as an instrumental, rather than a drum and fife unit.

Her grandfather, Maj. Venerando Pulizzi, fought in the War of 1812 at Bladensburg, Md., and her maternal grandfather, Capt. Ira Goodnow, was doorkeeper of the House of Representatives during Abraham Lincoln's Administration.

Miss Pulizzi, who started as a first-grade teacher at Corcoran in 1891, was graduated from old Central High School, Wilson Teachers College, and George Washington University.

In 1905, after observing snow blowing in the faces of a streetcar motorman and his passengers, she campaigned to get enclosed vestibules on streetcars. Seventeen days after she carried the campaign to Congress, the authorization bill was passed.

As vice president of the Friendship Citizens Association for 22 years, Miss Pulizzi was instrumental in getting the Tenley Branch Library in 1927. She was responsible for installation of the first traffic light in the Friendship section at the Janney School intersection and another at Fessenden st. and Wisconsin ave. n.w.

She taught at Addison, Filmore, Barrett, and Force Schools before becoming Industrial Home School principal.

After her retirement, Miss Pulizzi traveled frequently to Europe and spent her summers in Ogunquit, Maine.

Surviving is a niece, Mrs. Joseph H. Bien, with whom she lived.

A service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday in the Robert A. Pumphrey funeral home, 7557 Wisconsin ave., Bethesda. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.