

Capt. Douglas Spencer Bliss (1879 – 2 Apr 1949)

Bliss, D. Spencer, Capt. Suddenly in Phoenix, Ariz., on April 1, 1949, Capt. D. Spencer Bliss, son of the late Alfred G. and Jane Bliss, brother of Flora R. Pickells and Annie B. Walz, uncle of Mrs. Dorothy Pickells Shepherd, Mrs. Ruth Walz O'Connell and Spencer Bliss Walz. Friends may call at the Lee Funeral Home, 4th st. and Mass ave. n.e., after 12 noon Wednesday, where services will be held on Thursday, April 7, at 2 p.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

The Evening Star, April 2, 1949, p. A1

Bulletin

Douglas S. Bliss Dies

Douglas Spencer Bliss, who retired last month as deputy commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue here, died at a Phoenix (Ariz.) hotel last night, the Associated Press reported. He had been undergoing treatment for a lung ailment.

The Evening Star, April 3, 1949, p. A34

D. Spencer Bliss Dies In Arizona; Retired Revenue Official

Douglas Spencer Bliss, recently retired deputy commissioner of the Internal Revenue here, died in a Phoenix, Ariz., hotel Friday night.

The 70-year-old Washington native was found dead in his hotel room by a maid, Associated Press dispatches reported. He had gone to Arizona for treatment of a bronchial ailment after his retirement in February.

Mr. Bliss had been in Government service for 50 years. He started as a Treasury Department clerk in 1899 and was the oldest Treasury employe in point of service when he retired. Among the positions he had held were section chief of various divisions, assistant commissioner of prohibition, commissioner of industrial alcohol and deputy commissioner in charge of the miscellaneous tax unit. His tenure of the latter post dated from 1934.

Mr. Bliss was a lifelong resident here. He had been a member of the Corcoran Cadets and had served in the Spanish-American War, the Mexican Border Campaign and in World War I as a Quartermaster Corps captain. A star athlete in baseball and football at Eastern High School. He also was a champion lightweight boxer and oarsman in his youth.

Active in Community Chest and Red Cross work. Mr. Bliss was a 32nd Degree Mason and a Shriner and also was a member of the United Spanish War Veterans, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Manor Country Club.

A bachelor, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Flora Pickells, with whom he lived, at 923 East Capitol street and Mrs. Annie B. Walz of 117 Thirteenth street S.E.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed.