

John Carrington (- 25 Feb 1939)

Carrington, John. Suddenly on Saturday, February 25, 1939 at his residence, 1526 East Capitol street, John Carrington, beloved husband of the late Margaret Carrington. Funeral from above residence on Tuesday, February 28 at 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

The Evening Star, February 25, 1939, p. A1

Heart Attack Is Fatal To John Carrington, Acting Fire Chief Veteran Deputy Served 47 Years With Only 28 Days' Sick Leave



JOHN CARRINGTON

Acting Fire Chief Engineer John Carrington, who in his 47 years with the Fire Department had taken but 28 days of sick leave -- and that because of injuries received in line of duty -- died of a heart attack at 7 o'clock this morning at his home, 1526 East Capitol street.

Ranking senior deputy chief engineer, the veteran fireman had taken over the duties of Chief Charles Schrom when the department head became seriously ill with a kidney ailment January 15.

Chief Carrington, who was 68 years old, was preparing to report for duty today when he collapsed in the basement of his home, where he had gone to attend to the furnace.

His daughter, Mrs. Charlotte Heath, who lives at the East Capitol street address, found him in an unconscious condition and summoned the fire rescue squad. Efforts to revive him were futile.

Decorated, Commended

Department officials today pointed to his remarkable record in the service.

Chief Carrington was awarded the coveted ribbon decoration for outstanding work and heroism on the occasion of the Knickerbocker Theater tragedy in 1923. The district Commissioners gave him special commendation for his work at the Kann warehouse fire two years later.

In November, 1929, he received two commendations for work in two of the District's most disastrous fires both of which occurred on the same day -- the 5 and 10 cent store explosion on Seventh street N.W. and the five-alarm fire at a paper box factory at First street and Indiana avenue N.W.

Chief Carrington began his work with the department June 17, 1892 and was promoted three years later to the rank of assistant foreman, which corresponds to the present rank of lieutenant. On January 1, 1898, he was elevated to foreman (or captain under the present system).

Senior Deputy Engineer

His promotion to the rank of battalion chief came January 21, 1919, and he was made a deputy chief engineer July 1, 1931, after serving temporarily in that capacity for a year. There are two deputy chief engineers in the department. Chief Schrom was taken to Emergency Hospital Thursday where he was reported "holding his own" today. In notifying the Commissioners of Chief Carrington's death, Acting Chief Engineer A.C. Buscher stated: "He served the department faithfully and conscientiously and his death is sincerely felt by the entire department."

Among his survivors is a son, James W. Carrington, also with the Fire Department as a private attached to No. 28 Engine Company.

Other survivors include three other daughters, Mrs. Flora Cumberland of Ballston, Va.; Mrs. Margaret Gurley of Garrett Park, Md., and Mrs. Dorothy Raines of 1321 East Capitol street; another son, Frederick Carrington, also of Washington and a brother, Harry Carrington of Yorkville, Ill.

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Carrington Funeral To Be On Tuesday

Funeral services for Acting Chief Engineer John Carrington of the District Fire Department, who died yesterday of a heart attack at his home, 1526 East Capitol street, will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at his residence. The Rev. Dr. Enoch M. Thompson, rector of the Nativity and Resurrection Episcopal Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery, with Masonic rites at the grave.

As ranking senior deputy chief engineer of the department, Mr. Carrington had been acting chief since Chief Charles E. Schrom became ill on January 15. Chief Schrom is in Emergency Hospital.

Chief Carrington began service in the fire department in June, 1892. Following other early promotions he became a battalion chief in January, 1919, and was made deputy chief engineer July 1, 1931. He was 68 years old. He was awarded the ribbon decoration for outstanding work and heroism at the time of the Knickerbocker Theater disaster in 1922 and had received other commendations for outstanding work during big fires here. He was a member of Lebanon Lodge of Masons.