

## **Gilbert William Coulter**

### **(1915 – 10 May 1923)**

---

**Coulter.** Suddenly May 10, 1923, Gilbert William Coulter, beloved son of William T. and Katherine Ruth (nee Sheaffer) aged 8 years. Funeral will take place on Saturday, May 12 at 2:30 p.m. from the residence of his grandmother, 624 9th street s.w. [Baltimore papers please copy].

*The Evening Star, May 11, 1923, p. 21*

#### **Boy Of 8 Drowns Playing At Wharf**

##### **Gilbert Coulter Reaching for Broom When He Falls Into Potomac River**

Gilbert William Coulter, eight years old, son of Capt. William Coulter, chief of the Walter Reed fire department, and Mrs. Katherine Sheaffer Coulter, 806 G Street southwest, was drowned in the river at the foot of 11<sup>th</sup> street southwest yesterday afternoon. Gilbert and a companion were playing on the wharf with a broom, and in an effort to regain possession of the broom when it fell in the river Gilbert fell overboard.

Clarence R. Sheaffer, uncle of the Coulter boy, in business near the wharf, heard there was a boy overboard and rushed to the scene, not knowing the boy was his nephew. Quickly removing his clothing, Sheaffer leaped in and made a search.

#### **Renews Search in Boat**

Unable to locate the body, he left the water, procured a boat and renewed the search. He recovered the body about twenty minutes after the accident happened, and recognized the face of his nephew.

The body was rushed to Emergency Hospital, where a pulmotor was used. Coroner Nevitt gave a certificate of accidental death.

The deceased, who was his mother's constant companion, was a manly little fellow and a general favorite with his school and neighborhood companions. He attended the Fairbrother School and the Sunday school at Epiphany Chapel. Funeral services will be held at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Annie L. Sheaffer, 9<sup>th</sup> and G streets southwest.