

Elizabeth Semmes

(- 6 Apr 1958)

Dessez, Elizabeth Semmes. On Saturday, April 5, 1958, at her residence 3815 Jennifer st. n.w., Elizabeth Semmes Dessez, sister of Capt. John Harrison Semmes Dessez, USN; aunt of Mrs. Sally Dessez Miller and great-aunt of Elizabeth Dessez Miller, Luther Deck Miller III and Susan Harrison Miller all of Lothian, Md. Services will be held at St. Mary's Chapel, Washington Cathedral, Massachusetts and Wisconsin aves. nw. on Tuesday, April 8 at 11 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery. Expression of sympathy may be made to the Building Fund of St. James Episcopal Church, Lothian, Md.

The Evening Star, April 7, 1958, p. A13

Miss Elizabeth Dessez, 71, Librarian at Western High

Miss Elizabeth Semmes Dessez, 71, who was librarian at Western High School for 39 years died Saturday at her home, 3815 Jenifer street N.W.

A native of Washington she was the daughter of the late Architect, Leon E. Dessez and Elizabeth Wadsworth Semmes Dessez. Her family was one of the first to settle in Chevy Chase, in 1893.

Described by her associates at Western High School as an active librarian, Miss Dessez stimulated student interest in books, and directed a special study group in modern literature. She herself was graduated from the school and often said she would have paid for the privilege of being librarian there.

She became librarian in 1919 and retired in 1948.

She is survived by her brother, John Harrison Semmes Dessez, of the home address, a niece, Mrs. Sally D. Miller, and two grandnieces, of Lothian, Md.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow in St. Mary's Chapel, of Washington Cathedral, with burial in Congressional Cemetery. The family has requested that tokens of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the building fund of St. James Episcopal Church, Lothian.

The Washington Post, April 7, 1958, p. B2

Miss Dessez Dies; School Librarian

Elizabeth Semmes Dessez, 71, librarian at Western High School from 1919 until her retirement in 1948, died Saturday at her home, 3815 Jenifer st. nw.

Miss Dessez, born in Washington, was the daughter of the late Elizabeth Wadsworth Semmes and Leon E. Dessez, architect. Her family, one of the first to settle in Chevy Chase, moved there in 1893.

A profound student of literature, Miss Dessez found library work so congenial that once she exclaimed, "I would have chosen to be librarian at Western High School even if I had had to pay for the privilege."

Survivors include her brother, John Harrison Semmes Dessez, of the home address; and a niece, Sally D. Miller, of Lothian, Md.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Bethlehem Chapel of the Washington Cathedral, with burial in Congressional Cemetery.