

## Ralph C. Faulkner

( - 21 Aug 1948)

---

**Faulkner, Ralph C., Sr.** On Saturday, August 21, 1948, at Gallinger Hospital, Ralph C. Faulkner, Sr., brother of J.D. Faulkner of San Antonio, Tex., and Mrs. Charles Vertrees of Midland, Tex. Friends may call at the Lee Funeral Home, 4th st. and Mass. Ave. n.e., where services will be held on Tuesday, August 24, at 11 a.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

*The Evening Star, August 23, 1948, p. A10*

### **Ralph C. Faulkner, 58, Ghost Writer and Cartoonist, Is Dead**

Ralph C. Faulkner, sr., 58, free-lance political cartoonist, and ghost writer for members of Congress over the last decade, died Saturday night in Gallinger Hospital. He had been ill almost two years and had been in critical condition more than four months.

Mr. Faulkner's death was attributed to cancer of the throat. He had been unable to speak since last spring, but rallied a few minutes before his death to recite passages of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam and talk optimistically of return to Texas, his home, "when I get out of here."

He had undergone an emergency operation at the hospital last Tuesday.

### *Planned Campaign Work*

Friends said Mr. Faulkner had looked forward to doing much cartooning this fall during the presidential campaign and had contracted with a number of Congressmen and national publications.

A former vaudeville impersonator and quick sketch artist, Mr. Faulkner was a noted "double" for President Wilson. In 1918, during an appearance at old Poli's theater here, Mr. Wilson went into Mr. Faulkner's dressing room to congratulate him on an impersonation.

Mr. Faulkner's close friends included figures in the sports, theatrical and political fields.

### *Worked for Many Papers*

Over the last four decades, he had done cartoons for newspapers and periodicals which included the Washington Times-Herald, the old New York Ledger, the New York News, papers in San Francisco and Los Angeles, Life Magazine and various trade journals. For the last 15 years, he had done free-lance cartooning and publicity work for the United Mine Workers.

Mr. Faulkner once narrowly escaped death before a Mexican firing squad for having portrayed Porfirio Diaz, the dictator, as a huge snake crushing Mexico. Mr. Faulkner was working as a cartoonist on the newspaper El Diario in Mexico City. Ordered arrested by President Diaz, he escaped to this country hidden in a clothes hamper in a railroad baggage car carrying a Wells Fargo gold shipment.

Born in San Antonio, Tex., Mr. Faulkner in his youth delivered papers for the San Antonio Express and learned to draw. He later attended the University of Texas for several years, but left college to free-lance for papers in California.

### *Played With Frank Tinney*

During World War I he toured the Keith vaudeville circuit, and began his series of appearances as President Wilson with the Frank Tinney show at Keith's Orpheum in New York.

He came to Washington in the early 1930's and did theatrical and sports cartoons for the old Washington Times for several years before going into free-lance work.

A popular raconteur and wit, Mr. Faulkner was for many years a member of the old Washington Newspaper Club. His home was at 1343 L street N.W.

He had been married, but was divorced in the late 1930s. He is survived by a son, Ralph Faulkner, jr., of Livingston, Mont.; a sister, Mrs. Charles Vertrees of Midland, Tex., and a brother, James E. Faulkner, jr., of San Antonio.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow at the Lee funeral home, Fourth street and Massachusetts avenue N.W. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.

The Washington Post, August 23, 1948, p. B2

R.C. Faulkner Services Set For Tuesday

Ralph C. Faulkner, sr., 58, cartoonist and "double" for Woodrow Wilson, died Saturday night in Gallinger Hospital of cancer after a year's illness.

Mr. Faulkner lived at 1343 L st. nw. He had served as a cartoonist for the Washington Times-Herald and for the past 15 years had done free lance cartooning and publicity work for the United Mine Workers.

Mr. Faulkner once was ordered arrested by President Diaz after he had cartooned him as a huge snake crushing Mexico. At the time Mr. Faulkner was working as a cartoonist on the newspaper El Diaro in Mexico City. He escaped to the United States hidden in a basket which was being sent as part of a gold shipment.

Born in San Antonio, Tex., Mr. Faulkner delivered papers for the San Antonio Express while he taught himself to draw, later free-lanced for newspapers in California.

In 1918, he impersonated President Wilson in Frank Tinney's show in New York, and later made a tour of the Keith vaudeville circuit as "Woodrow."

After settling in Washington, Mr. Faulkner for a number of years was a political cartoonist and writer for members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

He is survived by a son, Ralph, jr., of Livingstone, Mont., and a brother, James E. Faulkner, jr., of San Antonio, Tex.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Lee's Funeral Home, 4th st. and Massachusetts ave. ne. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.