

Adam Gaddis, Jr.

(26 Jul 1829 – 28 Dec 1915)

Gaddis. On Tuesday December 28, 1915 at noon at his residence 225 A street s.e. Adam Gaddis beloved husband of Mary Trimble Gaddis in the 87th year of his age. Funeral Friday December 31 at 2 p.m. from his late residence. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Please omit flowers.

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Adam Gaddis Dies in his 87th Year



ADAM GADDIS

Adam Gaddis, former president of Metropolis Building Association, prominent in Masonic circles, and for many years engaged in the wholesale grocery business in this city, died yesterday at the family residence, 225 A street southeast. He was in the eighty-seventh year. Death was due to general debility.

Funeral services will be held at the residence Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock with Rev. C. Rochford Statson, rector of Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church, officiating. Masonic services will be conducted under the auspices of Naval Lodge, No. 4, F.A.A.M., and De Molay Commandery, Knights Templar. Interment will be in the family plot at Congressional cemetery.

The Evening Star, December 30, 1915, p.

Adam Gaddis' Funeral To Be Held Tomorrow

Services at House and Grave Will Be Conducted By Dr. Stetson and Masonic Bodies

Funeral services for Adam Gaddis, an old resident of Washington, who died Tuesday, are to be held at the residence, 2225 A street southeast, tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. C. Rochford Stetson, rector of Trinity P.E. Church, is to officiate. Masonic services are to be conducted under the auspices of Naval Lodge, No. 4, F.A.A.M., and DeMolay Mounted Commandery, No. 4, Knights Templar. Interment is to be in Congressional cemetery.

Members of the Association of Oldest Inhabitants are to attend.

Mr. Gaddis was a lifelong resident of East Washington. He was born July 26, 1829, and was the second son of Adam Gaddis Sr, a Scotch-Irish emigrant, native of Newry, County Down, Ireland who settled in this city about 1820, and who was foreman of the gallery shop of the Washington navy yard for forty-five years and of Julia Ann Gaddis, who before her marriage was Miss Julia Ann Green, native of Baltimore county, Md.

Held Many Offices of Trust

He was the president of Metropolis Building Association from May, 1899 until July, 1914, when he declined reelection. In Masonic circles Mr. Gaddis was a trustee of Naval Lodge, No. 4, F.A.A.M., in a continuous term of office from 1889 to 1914, and was the treasurer of that lodge from 1889-1910; he was the treasurer of Washington Naval R.A. Chapter No. 6, from 1889 to 1911, and served longer terms in office than any other official of Naval Lodge, the charter of which dates from 1805, and also a longer term in office than any other official of Naval Chapter, the charter of which dates from 1869.

Other Masonic bodies to which Mr. Gaddis belonged are DeMolay Commandery, Knights Templar; Almas Temple and Masonic Veterans' Association. He was the second vice president of the Masonic Veterans Association from 1898 to 1902, inclusive and first vice president in 1903. He was also a member of the Association of Oldest Inhabitants.

Mr. Gaddis attended school in East Washington when the city in its environment was scarcely more than a country town. He attended the school of Charles H. Cragin, in a schoolroom over the then Columbia engine house, the site of which was adjacent to New Jersey avenue and B street southeast, now part of the Capitol parking.

Later he attended school upon the lower floor of the old Naval Lodge building, Virginia avenue and 6th street southeast, under Schoolmasters French and Shyre. Similarly located schools were typical of the pay schools of the early days in Washington, when such public schools as did exist were commonly regarded as having been instituted rather for the children of parents unfortunate in circumstances.

Began Business Life at Sixteen

Young Gaddis began business life when sixteen years old. He was a clerk for a druggist two years, and then clerk for a grocer five years. Then he became a merchant, and after having been established several years as proprietor, formed a co-partnership with an elder brother, the late Lemuel Gaddis, who died in this city in 1909 at the age of eighty-four years.

The firm of A. Gaddis, Jr. & Co. was a well known wholesale and retail grocery, established from a period antedating the civil war. The place of business was at the corner of 11th and M streets southeast.

Mr. Gaddis was twice married. His first wife, Miss Margaret Trimble, to whom he was married November 26, 1855, died October 6, 1878. He was married to Miss Mary Trimble, a sister of the first wife, June 12, 1883, who survives. Besides the widow, four sons by the first wife survive, they being W.L. Gaddis, W.T. Gaddis, A.H. Gaddis and J.P. Gaddis.

The Evening Star, October 10, 1876

Locals. Adam Gaddis has entered suit against John B. Miller for assault on the plaintiff in Uniontown, D.C., May 30, 1876, laying damages at \$10,000.

History of the Naval Lodge, No. 4, F.A.A.M.

Adam Gaddis, Treasurer of the Lodge, was elected to that position in 1889, having previously been Trustee since 1869, and has served continuously in both offices ever since. Brother Gaddis became an Entered Apprentice in Naval Lodge Feb. 22, 1865; a Fellow Craft Mar. 23, 1865, and a Master Mason May 6, 1865; received the Capitular degrees in 1869 in Washington Naval Royal Arch Chapter, No. 6, whereof he has been the Treasurer since 1889; received the Templar degrees in DeMolay Mounted Commandery, No. 4, in 1887; became a member of the Masonic Veterans Association of the District of Columbia June 27, 1887, and was the Second Vice-President from 1898 to 1902 inclusive, and the First Vice-President in 1903; became a member of Almas Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., July 29, 1892. He has been especially active and painstaking in the business affairs of the Lodge and was a member of the committee which supervised the construction of the present Naval Lodge edifice. Brother Gaddis has been a life-long resident of East Washington, where he was born July 26, 1829. ...Adam Gaddis, Jr., for thus he was styled in the lifetime of the father, attended private schools in East Washington, among them that of Charles H. Cragin on the upper floor of the then Columbia Engine House, approximately at the corner of New Jersey Avenue and B Street, S.E., the site being part of the Capitol parking; also, that of school-masters French and Shyne, on the lower floor of the old Naval Lodge building, Virginia Avenue

and Fifth Street, S.E., where young Gaddis acted as the assistant of School-master Shyne in teaching the younger pupils while pursuing his studies. At sixteen years of age he commenced business life; was a drug clerk two years, afterwards a grocer's clerk five years, and then opened a grocery store, continuing as a proprietor in that line until 1891, when he retired from active business. During most of this period his brother, Lemuel Gaddis, was associated with him under the firm name, A. Gaddis, Jr., and Co., Wholesale and Retail Grocers, Eleventh and M Streets, S.E.; he is the President of Metropolis Building Association, No. 8, and was for a number of years a member of the vestry of Washington Parish (Christ P.E. Church), and one of the vestry committee of three having direct supervision of Congressional Cemetery, which cemetery is appurtenant to Washington Parish. He has four sons, one of whom, Edgar T. Gaddis, is a member of Naval Lodge, also three brothers who are members of the Lodge, to wit, Lemuel (before mentioned), George H. and William Gaddis, the last named a resident of Helena, Montana. In the interest of the better preservation of the records Brother Gaddis on Feb. 7, 1895, presented the Lodge the handsome safe now in use in the building.