

Wilmuth Gary

(1872 – 17 Apr 1955)

Gary, Wilmuth. On Sunday, April 17, 1955, at Howell, Mich., Wilmuth Gary, beloved aunt of Mr. Mark H. Gathmann, Howell, Mich. Mr. Emil Gathmann, Jr., Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Edgar R. Smith, Baltimore, Md. Graveside services will be held on Thursday, April 21, at 3 p.m. at Congressional Cemetery. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Arrangements by Hysong's Funeral Home.

The Washington Post, April 20, 1955, p. 16

Wilmuth Gary

Graveside services will be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at Congressional Cemetery for Wilmuth Gary, often known as "the international Betsy Ross," who died Sunday at Howell, Mich.

Miss Gary, a resident of the District since 1890, was a descendant of Caesar Rodney, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

For many years she was a leader in D.C. music circles and composed a number of songs. She won national fame at the age of 10 for a composition which won a gold medal at the World's Fair in Chicago.

It was during that war she won distinction as "the international Betsy Ross" because of a "flag of the Allies" she designed and assembled for the State Department.

She is survived by two nephews, Mark Gathmann of Howell, Mich., and Emil Gathmann Jr, of Baltimore. Also one niece, Mrs. Edgar R. Smith of Baltimore.

McMahan, Virgil E. The Artists of Washington, DC, 1796-1996. The Artists of Washington, Washington, DC, 1995.

GARY, WILMUTH

Painter born in Galveston, TX who was active in Washington, DC during the period 1896-1929. She was also a pianist and music teacher and member of the National League of American Pen Women of the District of Columbia. The sale of reproductions of her painting "Rodney's Ride" which was exhibited at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, was purported to have contributed considerably to building of the D.A.R. Hall. REFS: The Washington Elite List, 1896 WCD (1905, 1907) WWNC (1929-30).