

Walter Gist

(- 12 Jun 1974)

Gist, Walter. On Wednesday, June 12, 1974, at age of 6, Master Walter Gist of 1419 Harvard st. n.w., beloved son of Mrs. Mary Gist also surviving one sister, one brother, a host of other relatives and many friends. Family will receive friends at the Manor Park Funeral Service, Inc., 6201 3rd st. n.w. Sunday, June 16, from 6 to 9:30 p.m., where funeral services will be held Monday, June 17, at 10 a.m., Rev. Woodbridge officiating. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

The Washington Post, June 13, 1974, p. A38

NW Boy, 6, Dies in Fire in Bedroom

A 6-year-old Northwest Washington boy died in a fire in his bedroom early yesterday despite efforts by police and neighbors to save him, D.C. police reported.

Walter Gist was sleeping in the rear bedroom of a first-floor apartment at 1419 Harvard St. N.W. when the fire began at about 1:55 a.m. The boy was rescued by police and a neighbor Ira Craddock, 34, police said.

Attempts by police and rescue personnel to revive the boy failed, and he was pronounced dead of smoke inhalation at 2:35 a.m. at Children's Hospital.

Police said Craddock, who lived on the second floor of the three-story row house was awakened by smoke and apparently sounded the alarm.

The boy's mother, Mary Ella Gist, 40, was sleeping in another room of the apartment when the fire began, D.C. fire officials said. She escaped without injury.

Officials said the fire started in a chair in the boy's bedroom. The chair probably smoldered for some time before the blaze began, fire officials added. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.