

## Mary Alice Herbert

( - 10 Sep 1935)

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**Herbert, Mary Alice.** Suddenly, on Tuesday, September 10, 1935, Mary Alice Herbert, beloved daughter of Thomas G. and Mary Herbert (nee Anderson). Funeral from her late residence, 1519 Webster st. n.w., on Thursday, September 12, at 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

*The Evening Star, September 11, 1935, p. 19*

### **Girl's Body Falls Near Boy, Asleep**

#### **Mary A. Herbert, 19, Ends Life in 65-Foot Bridge Leap**



Mary Alice Herbert.

Despondent over ill health, Miss Mary Alice Herbert, 19, daughter of Thomas G. Herbert, general superintendent of the Smoot Sand and Gravel Corp., yesterday jumped 65 feet from the Sixteenth Street Bridge over the Piney Branch Parkway, and narrowly missed falling on a 10-year-old boy, who had been asleep, and his dog. The girl died in Walter Reed Hospital a short time later.

Miss Herbert was first identified by a card she carried in her pocket, evidently prepared for the purpose. On the card she had written:

"I am Mary Alice Herbert of 1519 Webster Street."

#### *Girl Ill, Mother Says*

Her mother, arriving at the hospital shortly after the girl died, said she had been in ill health and despondent for several days.

David Russell Lehman, 3708 Ninth street, was sleeping on a tool box about 15 feet from where the girl's body struck in a dirt roadway. He said he had gone for a walk in the Piney Branch woods and had lain down on the box to take a nap when he became tired.

"I guess I was still asleep when I heard a scream," he said. "Then I was down on the ground on top of Shep (the dog) and he was biting my arm. The first thing I saw was the girl hitting the ground. I tied Shep's rope around my waist before I went to sleep and I guess he just pulled me off the box before I woke up."

#### *Describes Girl's Leap*

Young Lehman, still clutching a cotton rope at the end of which Shep followed obediently, stayed on the scene only long enough to help officers reconstruct the tragedy.

Funeral services for Miss Herbert are to be held at the home tomorrow afternoon. Interment will be in Congressional Cemetery. The girl, who was graduated from Central High School last June, is survived by her parents and a brother, Thomas, jr.

Dr. A. Magruder MacDonald, corner, issued a certificate of suicide.