

John T. Jones

(- 24 Nov 1898)

Jones. Suddenly on Thursday, November 24, 1898 at 3:30 o'clock p.m., John T. Jones. Funeral on Sunday, November 27 at 1:30 o'clock p.m. from his late residence, 725 11th street northwest. Services will be held at St. Mark's Church, Third and A streets southeast at 2 o'clock p.m. Friends and relatives invited to attend.

The Evening Star, November 25, 1898, p. 7

Dies of Asphyxiation

Peculiar Circumstances Which Lead to Fatal Result

When John T. Jones, 50 years old, and employed by the Washington Gas Company as a watchman, was found dead in his watch box, at the corner of 5th and Washington streets, yesterday, it was supposed he had died from some organic trouble, such as heart disease, but an autopsy this morning developed the fact that he was accidentally strangled or choked to death as a result of a Thanksgiving indiscretion. Deputy Coroner L.W. Glazebrook performed the autopsy at the Emergency Hospital, and at its conclusion stated that Jones had unquestionably been drinking heavily throughout all of Thanksgiving day. He had evidently become sick after returning to his post of duty and vomited. Being in a semi-conscious condition from liquor he breathed the discharge back into his larynx and lungs, and died from resulting asphyxia. There being no question as to the cause of death, it was decided by the authorities that an inquest was unnecessary, and none will be held.

Jones was discovered in an unconscious condition in his watch box at the street intersection stated by Howard J. Dittenbaugh, who informed the police. The man was removed at once to the Emergency Hospital, where all efforts looking toward resuscitation were fruitless. He had been in the employ of the gas company for a number of years, and was engaged at the time of his death in watching over the exposed property of the company along the line of the Eckington and Soldiers' Home railroad, the introduction of the underground electric system necessitating a change in the line of pipes. He had a small watch box, in which was a coke-burning stove.

Jones was last seen alive by a colored man named Emanuel Davis, who passed him about 2:30 o'clock and spoke. Jones seemed drowsy at that time, and was leaning forward. The deceased lived at 725 11th street northwest, and leaves a widow.