

James F. Lewis

(3 Sep 1846 – 4 Dec 1900)

The Evening Star, December 5, 1900

Found Dead in His Bed

Well-Known Builder the Victim of Acute Gastritis

James F. Lewis, a retired builder, was found dead in his bed at his home, No. 811 O street northwest this morning. Coroner Nevitt visited the house this afternoon, made an investigation and gave a certificate of death from acute gastritis.

Mr. Lewis was in apparently good health when he retired last night. He failed to come down stairs this morning, and one of the servants in the house went to his room and discovered that he was dead. The deceased was fifty-four years old, and was single. He was born in this city and had spent most of his life in the house where he died. He was a son of the late Thomas Lewis, the well-known builder, who was killed a few years ago by being knocked down by a vehicle in front of the government printing office, just after he had left a street car.

Mr. James F. Lewis, the deceased, was associated in business with his father for many years and was one of the best-known citizens of the city in the section where he lived. His brother, Dr. S.E. Lewis, who lives at 1418 14th street northwest, was notified of the death soon after the discovery and he went to the house and took charge of affairs. Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been made.

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Funeral of James F. Lewis

The funeral of the late James F. Lewis, whose death was noticed in The Star of Wednesday, took place yesterday afternoon from the residence, 9th and O streets northwest. There was a large attendance of the relatives, friends and neighbors of the deceased and of representatives of the old Washington families, as well as members of Washington Commandery, K.T.; Columbia R.A. Chapter and Federal Lodge of Masons. The religious services were conducted by Rev. Luther B. Wilson, D.D., of the Foundry M.E. Church, after which the services of the Templars were performed, and the cortege proceeded to Congressional cemetery, where the interment was made in the burial lot used by the family since 1817. The pallbearers were L. Stoddard and A.G. Hall of the blue lodge; P. Rouss and Thos. Foster of the chapter, and G.E. Strobel and M.F. Peake of the commandery.

The grandfather of the deceased, James Lewis, and his brother, Thomas, came here in 1806. His father, Thomas, born in 1812, was one of the most prominent citizens of Washington for many years, serving in the councils under Mayors Towers, Magruder and Wallach, deceased, and Berret and Emery, of whom he was a warm personal friend. He died in 1880, leaving many friends made by his unpretentious manner of life, high sense of honor, indomitable energy and big-heartedness, and a family of whom survive S.E. Lewis, M.D.; Miss Mary F. Lewis, Mrs. Emma V. Dutton, Thos. D. Lewis, Mrs. Marion J. Riggles, W.C. Lewis and John S. Lewis.

Jas. F. Lewis was born September 3, 1846 and had remained single. In Masonic circles he was active and energetic, but modest and unassuming.