

William J. Mallory

(- 1 Aug 1956)

Mallory, Dr. William J. On Wednesday, August 1, 1956, at his residence, Mallory Farm, Lovettsville, Va., Dr. William J. Mallory, beloved husband of Mrs. Helen S. Mallory and brother of Mr. Walter Mallory, McLean, Va., and Mrs. Robert Day, Richmond, Va. Remains resting at Hysong's Fufneral Home, 1300 N st. n.w., where services will be held on Saturday, August 4, at 10:30 a.m. Relatives and friends are invited to attend (ample parking facilities). Interment Congressional Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, it is kindly requested that contributions be sent to the Loudoun County Hospital Memorial Bed Fund, Leesburg, Va.



The Evening Star, August 2, 1958, p. A28

Dr. W.J. Mallory Dies; Former D.C. Physician

Dr. William J. Mallory, 81, prominent Washington physician and educator who was past president of the District Medical Society, died yesterday in Lovettsville, Loudoun County, Va. He had lived there since he retired in 1946.

Dr. Mallory was professor emeritus of medicine at George Washington University. He taught thousands of physicians who have entered practice here and throughout the Nation.

He specialized in internal medicine and formerly lived and had offices at 1720 Connecticut avenue N.W.

Dr. Mallory took whimsical pride in two distinctions he had – he was once made witch doctor of a Philippine headhunter tribe and a member of a Chinese tong.

To Philippines in 1903

He went to the Philippines in 1903, the same year he was graduated from George Washington University Medical School. The civil government had taken over in the Philippines and he was house surgeon of the Civil Hospital in Manila. Later he was attending physician and surgeon at the Government Sanitarium, Bagulo, Benquet, Philippines. From 1906 to 1907 he was health officer of the Province of Benquet.

In Bagulo Dr. Mallory saw patients of every social scale, from members of the Governor's family to native head hunters. "If progress toward recovery did not seem to them satisfactory," Dr. Mallory once wrote, "the patient would solemnly request permission to hold a Canao, or ceremonial feast, aid of treatment."

There Dr. Mallory gained his familiarity with tropical diseases, including cholera, leprosy, yaws and the bubonic and pneumonic plagues.

Saved in Ship Fire

Dr. Mallory left the Philippines to study further at St. George's Hospital Medical School in London, England. En route from the islands he was rescued from a burning liner.

Between Penang and Colombo he was transferred from the burning ship, Seydlitz, to the battleship H.M.S. Diadem, on which he completed his journey to Colombo.

He also studied two years in Berlin and did research at Cambridge University.

In London, Dr. Mallory walked the wards of St. George's Hospital with Dr. Humphrey Rolleston, who later became Sir Humphrey Rolleston, physician to the King. Dr. Rolleston sent Dr. Mallory to the Scotch border to observe a typhoid fever epidemic. Later, Sir Humphrey sent Dr. Mallory an autographed book of medical essays which is now in the library of the Surgeon General of the Army.

Dr. Mallory began his long association with George Washington University in 1911. He was then instructor in medicine and attending physician at the hospital. In 1924 he became professor of medicine and in 1929 chief of medical service. He became professor emeritus in 1938.

Name VA Consultant

In 1925 he was named consultant of the Veterans Bureau diagnostic clinic.

During World War I, Dr. Mallory was a captain in the Army Medical Corps and served as commanding officer of the 75th General Hospital, the George Washington Unit.

Dr. Mallory was president of the District Medical Society from 1938 to 1939. He was a member of numerous medical societies and clubs, including the Cosmos and Metropolitan Clubs.

Dr. Mallory was the author of numerous medical articles on gastro-intestinal disease, diabetes and medical history. Recently he published a book of poems. In addition to reading and writing since his retirement, his hobby was making cabinets.

Favors Scientific Approach

Known among his friends as a scholar and philosopher, Dr. Mallory once said: I hold that the methods of science should be applied to the attempt to solve the problems of economics, war and sociology. That is to say, before undertaking any research or attempting to deal with a new problem, the scientist thoroughly acquaints himself with all that has previously been done. . . . History supplies us with a sufficient number of examples and solemn warnings to make us able to avoid some of the terrific mistakes that have been made in the recent past, without mentioning what is cooking now."

Dr. Mallory was born in Goochland County, Va., the son of James H. and India Barker Mallory. He went to Virginia Mechanics Institute in Richmond, Va., before going to Columbian University, now George Washington University.

Survivors are his widow, the former Helen Slater of Washington, whom he married in 1907; a sister, Mrs. Robert Day, Richmond, Va., and a brother, Walter L. Mallory, McLean, Va.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Hysong's funeral home, 1300 N street N.W. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.