

Archie M. Murray

(- 10 Aug 1928)

Murray, Archie M. Suddenly, August 10, 1928, Archie M. Murray, beloved husband of Dorothy M. Murray. Funeral from the residence of his aunt, Mrs. Barber, 203 1st st s.e., Monday, August 13, at 2:30 p.m. Interment at Congressional Cemetery. Relatives and friends invited.

The Washington Post, August 11, 1928, p. 16

Investigator Eats Meal, Makes Bed, Kills Self

A.M. Murray's Body Found Under Kitchen Gas Jets

At Home In Cottage City

Note Apologizes To Wife

Archie M. Murray, 38 years old, private investigator, employed by several attorneys, and an insurance company, committed suicide by inhaling gas from four open jets in the kitchen of his home at 5 Spa street, Cottage City, Md., early yesterday.

Murray's body was found on an improvised bed near the stove, when firemen, summoned by a neighbor, forced their way into the house. Efforts to revive him were futile. An appeal to the Hyattsville Rescue Squad brought a response that the man in charge of its life-saving equipment was out of town.

Two notes, one addressed to his wife, apologizing for his act, and another to a lawyer, directing that all his property be turned over to his wife, were written by Murray as he prepared for death.

Mrs. Dorothy Murray, the widow, returned Thursday night from a two weeks' visit to Philadelphia. Murray was not at home, and she decided to go to a neighbor's home for the night. About 2 a.m. neighbors heard Murray enter the house. After preparing a meal, he is believed to have carried a mattress and two pillows to the kitchen where he also placed Mrs. Murray's picture and a toy belonging to his baby daughter by another marriage.

Mrs. P.J. Newmaker, a neighbor, detected the odor of escaping gas from the Murray residence. Murray had apparently been dead four or five hours when the body was found.