

## Arthur Hill O'Connor

(7 Apr 1858 – 7 Jul 1903)

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**O'Connor.** On July 6, 1903 at Washington, D.C. of pneumonia, Arthur Hill O'Connor in the 46th year of his age. The funeral will take place on Friday afternoon, July 10 at 2 o'clock from Congregational Church, corner G and 10th street northwest.



There will be a special communication of Federal Lodge, No. 1, F.A.A.M. at Masonic Temple on Friday afternoon, July 10 at 1:30 o'clock to bury the remains of our dear brother, Arthur Hill O'Connor.

A.J. Arnold, W.M.

*The Evening Star, July 8, 1903, p. 8*

### **Local Attorney Dead**

**Arthur O'Connor, Formerly Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Victim of Pneumonia**

**Mrs. O'Connor Is Absent From The City  
Funeral Arrangements Await Her Return--  
Her Husband Was Preparing to Join Her**

Until the widow is heard from no arrangements will be made for the funeral of Mr. Arthur Hill O'Connor, a prominent local attorney, who succumbed to hydrostetic pneumonia at the Georgetown University Hospital yesterday afternoon after a comparatively short illness. This decision was reached by the members of Lafayette Lodge, No. 19, F.A.A.M., who have taken charge of the remains of the deceased. Up to a late hour this

afternoon the officers of the lodge had not received any reply to their message to Mrs. O'Connor, and for this reason it could not be stated at what time the funeral will take place.

Mr. O'Connor had only recently resigned the office of assistant corporation counsel of the District and had intended to go to Detroit for a summer vacation, as soon as he could arrange his private business. He sent Mrs. O'Connor to Detroit nearly two weeks ago, at which time he assured her that he would follow as soon as possible. In order that neither he nor his wife would be troubled with household affairs, the O'Connor apartments at 1336 I street were closed and Mr. O'Connor took temporary lodging at a West Washington hotel.

Subsequently he contracted a severe cold, which was so severe in its effects that a physician was summoned. Upon the advice of the proprietor of the hotel, Mr. O'Connor went to the Georgetown University Hospital last Friday, with a view to procuring the best attention possible, so that he could leave Washington to join his wife at an early date. The physicians at the hospital diagnosed his malady as pneumonia, but his condition was not regarded as threatening. The symptoms, however, did not disappear under treatment, and yesterday morning the physicians became uneasy at his condition, and communicated with his wife. His suffering continued to become more intense until about 2:30 o'clock yesterday, when death came. His wife was then informed of the sad termination.

*Body in Charge of Fraternity*

The members of Lafayette Lodge, No. 19, F.A.A.M., of which Mr. O'Connor had been a member, immediately took charge of the remains and had them removed to the undertaking establishment of James T. Clements in Georgetown. Early this morning they were again removed to the establishment of Mr. John Lowe of 612 11th street, who is also a member of Lafayette Lodge.

Mr. O'Connor was in the 44th year of his age. He was born in Muscatine, Iowa, the son of Judge Henry O'Connor, who was appointed solicitor for the State Department in 1872, at which time the O'Connor family removed to this city. Mr. O'Connor, the son, after graduating from the Emerson Institute, left this city and took a course in the State University of Iowa. Later he returned to this city and took up the study of law, graduating in 1880. He again left Washington to practice his profession making his residence in Custer county, Mont. He soon returned, however, to practice before the Interior Department, which he continued for two years. Three years ago Mr. O'Connor journeyed to Alaska, as representative of the Pacific Whaling Company. He became associated with the municipal government in January 1901, and figured prominently in District affairs until his resignation of the office of assistant corporation counsel.

The news of the death of Mr. O'Connor was a shock to the members of the bar. Mr. O'Connor was highly regarded by his brother attorneys, all of whom have only words of praise to say of him, both as a man and a lawyer.

It is understood the Bar Association of the District will at an early date take action in respect to the memory of Mr. O'Connor.

*The Evening Star, July 9, 1903, p. 2*

#### **Arthur O'Connor's Funeral**

##### **Services to Be Held at First Congregational Church**

Arrangements have been completed for the funeral of the late Arthur Hill O'Connor, formerly assistant corporation counsel for the District, whose death occurred late Tuesday afternoon. The services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the First Congregational Church, and will be conducted by Rev. A.E. Wurst, assistant pastor of the church.

The interment will take place in Congressional cemetery. The services at the grave will be conducted by Federal Lodge, No. 1, F.A.A.M., of which Mr. O'Connor was a member.

The funeral arrangements are in charge of the members of Federal Lodge.

The president of the District Bar Association will appoint a committee of attorneys affiliated with the association to attend the services at the church and at the grave, and the members of the Masonic lodge will be present in a body.

Mrs. O'Connor, who has been visiting in Detroit for about two weeks past, arrived in Washington this morning.

*The Evening Star, July 10, 1903, p. 8*

#### **Last Rites Over Dead**

##### **Funeral of Arthur H. O'Connor This Afternoon**

##### **Services at the First Congregational Church--**

##### **Deceased Buried With Masonic Honors**

The funeral of the late Arthur Hill O'Connor, formerly assistant corporation counsel for the District of Columbia, who died at the Georgetown University Hospital of pneumonia last Tuesday evening, was held this afternoon, beginning at 2 o'clock, from the First Congregational Church, corner of 10th and G streets northwest. The service at the church was conducted by Rev. A.E. Wurst, acting pastor, and special music was furnished by the First Congregational choir, consisting of Mrs. Hattie Meads-Smith,

soprano; Miss Edna Scott Smith, alto; Mr. Douglas Miller, tenor, and Mr. J. Walter Humphrey, bass. Rev. Mr. Wurst delivered a brief address and read the ritual appointed by the Congregational Church for such occasions.

The services were attended by a large congregation, including representatives of the District Bar Association, and the members of Federal Lodge, No. 1, F.A.A.M., of which Mr. O'Connor was a member. The arrangements for the funeral were in charge of the Masonic lodge mentioned. Those appointed by Mr. Benjamin F. Leighton, president of the Bar Association, to attend the funeral were Messrs. E.H. Thomas, Conrad H. Syme, John Paul Earnest, M.J. Colbert and B.H. Minor. The pallbearers were selected from among the members of Federal Lodge, and were as follows: Messrs. Charles B. Bayly, W.S. Jenks, J.H. Doran, A.G. Hall, C.F. Benjamin and F.H. Blackford.

The casket was covered with floral tributes from friends of the family.

#### *Interment at Congressional Cemetery*

Following the services at the church the body was borne to Congressional cemetery, with the members of the Federal Masonic Lodge acting as escort, where the interment was made. The services at the grave were conducted under the auspices of the lodge, and the burial ritual was read by Mr. E.J. Shumate, acting master.

The service at the First Congregational Church was opened by the singing of "Lead, Kindly Light," by the church choir, after which Rev. Mr. Wurst read the burial service, which included several passages of Scripture and short poems appropriate to the occasion. Following the singing of "Abide With Me," by the choir, the clergyman made a brief address, taking his text from a part of the 24th verse of the 15th chapter of First Corinthians: "Then cometh the end."

The preacher spoke of the similarity of life and used several homely illustrations. Man lives, works, loves and passes away, he said, and though apparently that is the end, yet faith and hope tell us that there is something more and that death is just the beginning of a new existence. There is an end to all things, he said, and it is natural to expect the close of life. The clergyman in a few words told of the career of Mr. O'Connor, and the service closed with a prayer.

The service at the church lasted about half an hour, and the body was then borne to the cemetery, where the Masons took charge of the burial.