

## John M. Riordon ( - 17 Nov 1935)

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**Riordon, John M.** On Sunday, November 17, 1935, at his residence, 401 6th st. s.e., John M. Riordon, beloved husband of the late Rose Mead Riordon and father of Helen M. Riordon. Remains resting at the Lee funeral home, 4th st. and Mass. ave, n.e., until Wednesday, November 20, at 9:30 a.m., thence to St. Peter's Church, 2nd and C sts., s.e., where mass will be offered at 10 a.m. for the repose of his soul. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Congressional Cemetery. [The Evening Star, Tuesday, 19 Nov., p. A9]

*The Evening Star, November 18, 1935, p. 21*

### **Retired Banker Commits Suicide John M. Riordon, 65, Dies of Gas – Believed Despondent Over Health**



**J. M. Riordon.**

John M. Riordon, 65, retired executive vice president of the Bank of Commerce and Savings, ended his life by inhaling gas last night at his home, 401 Sixth street southeast. He had been despondent over his health, which had forced him to abandon active participation in the bank's affairs nearly a year ago.

A daughter, Miss Helen Riordon, a public school teacher, found the body in a tightly closed, second-floor room after she investigated the source of leaking gas. The keyhole in the door had been plugged with paper. Two wall jets were open.

#### *Rescue Efforts Futile*

The fire rescue squad and a Casualty Hospital physician worked for an hour in a futile attempt to revive the banker. Coroner A. Magruder MacDonald issued a certificate of suicide.

Mr. Riordon, who also was president of the Eastern Building & Loan Association, was born here in August 1870, the son of John B. and Sarah Riordon. He attended public schools and later the Spencerian Business School.

At 16, he became a runner for the National Capital Savings Banks, where he worked his way up to cashier. In 1900 he met and married Rose Meade, daughter of Haybackus Meade, iron foundry owner. Mrs. Riordon died 15 years ago.

In 1907, Mr. Riordon became cashier of the Dime Savings Bank, which later was renamed the Bank of Commerce & Savings. He was made executive vice president of the organization seven years ago.

#### *Taken Ill Years Ago*

About a year ago Mr. Riordon was taken ill with diabetes. He retired from active connection with the bank, but made occasional visits to the institution to keep in touch with affairs.

Mr. Riordon was a member of the District of Columbia Bankers' Association.

Besides his daughter, he is survived by three brothers, J. Allen Riordon, general manager of the Norfolk-Washington Steamboat Co.; Charles E. Riordon, patent attorney, and Raymond Riordon, founder

and principal of the Riordon School for Boys at Highland, N.Y., and two sisters, Mrs. R.B. Hunter and Mrs. S.F. Speiser, both of Washington.

Brief funeral services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday at the J. William Lee's Sons Co. funeral home and will be followed by church services at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Second and C streets southeast. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.