

## Estelle T. Schlaefer

( - 17 Feb 1948)

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**Schlaefer, Estelle Tompkins.** On Tuesday, February 17, 1948, at Baker, Oreg., Mrs. Estelle Tompkins Schlaefer, beloved mother of Mrs. Dorothy T. Berger, Mrs. Elizabeth T. Bennett, Frank T. and Clayton M. Thomas, jr.; sister of Mrs. Marylou Bradley and Mrs. Helen Ely of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. Frances Euler of Provincetown, Mass. Funeral services will be held at the home of her sister, Mrs. Helen Ely, 2025 Hillyer pl. n.w. on Saturday, February 21, at 2 p.m. Relatives and friends invited. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

*The Evening Star, February 19, 1948, p. A24*

### **Mrs. Estelle Schlaefer Rites To Be Held Here Saturday**

Funeral services for Mrs. Estelle Thompkins Schlaefer, 62, retired Government employe of 13 years' service, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the home of a sister, Mrs. Sterling Ely, 2025 Hillyer place N.W. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.

Mrs. Schlaefer died Tuesday in a hospital in Baker, Oreg., after a short illness. She had been visiting in Baker the last three weeks and had expected to return here in the spring to her home at 2811 Valley drive, Alexandria.

A native of Minden, La., Mrs. Schlaefer came to Washington as a small child with her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Thompkins. Her father was a newspaper correspondent here for the New Orleans Picayune.

Mrs. Schlaefer was graduated from Central High School and Louisiana State University. She worked at the Naval Observatory, the War Department and the Federal Housing Administration until she retired last May.

She was a member of the Dixie Chapter of the DAR and the Unity Chapter of the Eastern Star.

Survivors are two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Rutledge Bennett, Alexandria; Mrs. Dorothy Gay Berger, Middletown, N.Y.; two sons by a first marriage, Frank Thompkins Thomas of Bethesda and Clayton Malcolm Thomas, Alexandria; two other sisters Mrs. Reeves Euler, Provincetown, Mass., and Mrs. William E. Bradley, Washington, and six grandchildren.

*The Washington Post, February 19, 1948, p. B2*

### **Mrs. Estelle T. Schlaefer**

Funeral services for Mrs. Estelle Tompkins Schlaefer, 62, who died Monday while visiting in Baker, Oreg., will be held on Saturday at 2 p.m. at the home of her sister, Mrs. Sterling Ely, 2025 Hillyer pl. nw. Burial will be in Congressional Cemetery.

Services will be conducted by the Rev. Gilbert Phillips, pastor of All Souls Unitarian Church, an old family friend.

Born in Louisiana, Mrs. Schlaefer came to Washington more than 50 years ago with her father, the late Frank H. Tompkins, a well-known newspaperman. She was employed with the Naval Observatory for 30 years until her retirement last April.

Besides Mrs. Ely, she is survived by two other sisters, Mrs. Francis Rutledge Euler of Provincetown, Mass., and Mrs. Mary Lou Tompkins Bradley, 4112 17th st. nw.; two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Rutledge Bennett of Arlington, and Mrs. Dorothy Gay Berger, Littleton, N.H.; two sons, Frank Tompkins Thomas of Bethesda, and Clayton Malcolm Thomas, Arlington, and six grandchildren.