

Jane Priscilla Sousa

(7 Aug 1882 – 28 Oct 1958)

The Evening Star, Tuesday, October 28, 1958

Miss Jane Sousa, Daughter of Famous Bandmaster

Miss Jane Priscilla Sousa, 77, daughter of America's most famous bandmaster, died today in a New York hospital.



JANE PRISCILLA SOUSA

She was born in Washington and lived with her family for many years at 318 B Street S.E. (now Independence Avenue). Miss Sousa had lived at the estate of her father, John Phillip Sousa, at Sands Point, Long Island, since just before World War I.

A philanthropist and active worker in civic organizations, she was a graduate of Vassar College. In World War II, she volunteered as an air raid warden in her community and was identified with many patriotic organizations.

Such an association was natural. Her father, born in Southeast Washington, became the country's leading bandmaster, before the turn of the century, and composed some of the Nation's most famous patriotic marches.

His works included: "The Stars and Stripes Forever," "Semper Fidelis" and "El Capitan" He was leader of the United States Marines Band, and formed his own band in 1892. He died in 1932.

Miss Sousa leaves a sister, Mrs. Helen Sousa Abert in New York City.

A cousin of Miss Sousa, Lt. Col. Osmund A. Varela, USA (retired) of 4112 Glenrose Street, Kensington, Md., said funeral services would be at Christ Episcopal Church, 620 G Street, S.E., with burial in Congressional Cemetery. Arrangements are not yet complete.

The Washington Post, October 29, 1958, p. B2

Jane P. Sousa, 77, Dead; Daughter of the March King

Jane Priscilla Sousa, 77, daughter of John Philip Sousa, the March King, died yesterday in a New York hospital.

She had been suffering from a circulatory ailment.

Her world-famous father, composer of "The Stars and Strips Forever," "The Washington Post March," "Semper Fidelis" and more than 100 other marches, was born in Southeast Washington in 1854.

Miss Sousa, also a native of Washington, had lived at her father's estate at Sands Point, Long Island, N.Y., since before World War I. She was a graduate of Vassar College and was active in civic and philanthropic work.

She is survived by a sister, Helen Sousa Abert, of New York city.

A funeral service will be held at Christ Episcopal Church, 6th and G sts. se., with burial in the Sousa family plot in Congressional Cemetery.

Source ?, p. 246

Jane Priscilla, the second of John Philip's three children, was born at 420 Eighth Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. on August 7, 1882. She was educated in Washington, New York City (and possibly Red Bank, New Jersey) schools and graduated from Vassar in 1903. She never married and resided with her parents until their deaths. She then spent the rest of her life at the Sands Point home on Long Island. Although not a serious music student, she played the piano and composed at least one song ("Me and Ma' Old

Banjo," published by Sol Blom in 1904). She was active in society. In ill health after an automobile accident in 1954, she died in New York City on October 28, 1958, and is buried in the John Philip Sousa plot in Congressional Cemetery.