

[Rogers, Charles S.]

Col. Chas. S. Rogers Died Suddenly Sunday Evening
Prominent Hudsonian Had Turned Back On His Way to Church and
Was Stricken in Front of His Home—Death Followed Second
Heart Attack After He Had Rallied From the First.

Colonel Charles S. Rogers, one of the leading citizens of Hudson, died very suddenly at his home about 10 o'clock Sunday evening. Death was caused by a heart attack, the first that he had ever suffered.

On Sunday he had been about the streets as was his custom, enjoying his usual good health. Last evening with Mrs. Rogers he started from their Warren street home to attend the evening services in the Universalist church. On their way Colonel Rogers complained that he did not feel as if he could sit in church and decided to return home.

He told Mrs. Rogers that he did not feel ill but that he would rather return home and asked that she go to the services without him. Colonel Rogers walked to the steps of his porch when he suddenly was stricken with a heart attack and dropped to the sidewalk.

Dr. H. W. Johnson, who is a neighbor of Colonel Rogers, was talking with Dr. C. G. Durkee, in front of the former's residence at the time. They rushed to his aid and Dr. Johnson administered first aid and they then carried him into the house and placed him in bed. The family physician, Dr. Tracy, was summoned, and Colonel Rogers rallied from the attack.

A few minutes later, however, the second attack came, then quietly passed away a man who has been the leader in the public and business life of Hudson for many years.

Colonel Rogers was born in Hudson January 17, 1854, the son of the late Harper W. and Catherine Rogers, and it was in this city that he spent his entire life. He was well educated and learned the wholesale grocery business under his father, succeeding the latter in the big Columbia street business in 1878. From that date until only a year ago he successfully carried on this great business. Then he leased the buildings he had occupied so long to the Hudson Wholesale Grocery Co. and confined his efforts to smaller lines of the wholesale business at the corner of Columbia and Eighth streets.

In 1876 he married Blanch, daughter of the late Hoffman Sweet. They have one daughter, Mrs. Edward L. Harder of Claverack.

Colonel Rogers for half a century has been an active figure in business, politics, public life, firemanic and Masonic affairs. His last public office was that of State Prison Commissioner, his term expiring last June. Only last August Colonel Rogers was the guest of honor at an elaborate banquet given by C. H. Evans Hook & Ladder Co., marking his services as fifty years an active member of the Hudson Fire Department.

[Rogers, Charles S.]

He received his title as Colonel from Governor Roswell P. Flower of the State of New York when appointed as a member of the Governor's official staff in 1894.

He was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party in politics and ever was active in behalf of the principles of his party in which he whole-heartedly believed. He was appointed to and served on the Board of Public Works for several terms and served as its President. During his administration considerable street improvement work was completed. But he counted among his friends just as many Republicans as Democrats for they admired his faith in his party.

In firemanic circles he was known the length and breadth of the State. He was not only a member of C. H. Evans Hook & Ladder Co. No. 3 and had been for fifty years, but he was an honorary member of H. W. Rogers Hose Co., named for his father. Altho' but an honorary member there he took the same interest as an active member and was always so considered by his brother firemen. In fact, he was without doubt the leader of the firemen of Hudson and the one man who had done the most for the Hudson Department.

In 1880 he became a member of the State Firemen's Association when it was in its infancy and ten years later when it became a great and powerful organization, he was elected its President, an office which like all others he held, he cared for most efficiently.

When the first plans were made for the establishment of the State Firemen's Home in 1888 here he was appointed by the State Firemen's Association on the original committee and so served until the Home became a reality. In those years he did a service that stands today as a monument to his memory. He was elected and then for many years re-elected to the Board of Trustees of the Home, serving over a span of 20 years. He was a member of the original Board of Management.

He was the oldest member in point of service of the Board of Directors of the Farmers' National bank of this city. He was one of the first officers of the Hudson City Hospital and served as its Treasurer. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hudson Orphan Asylum and also served on many other boards and directorship[s] in years past.

He was prominent in Masonic circles and was a member of the Masonic Club, a member of Aquila Lodge, No. 700 since 1881, a member of Hudson Chapter, No. 6, R.A.M., since 1886, a member of Hudson Council, No. 62, R. & S.M., and a member of Lafayette Commandery, No. 7, K.T. He was President of the Masonic Hall Association of Hudson in 1900 and held offices in the Commandery and other bodies. He was also a member of Mecca Temple Order of the Mystic Shrine. He was also a member of Hudson Lodge, B.P.O.E.

He was a man ever fond of children and as he watched them grow up to manhood and womanhood he never lost sight of them and they never forgot him and today there is sorrow and sadness among those who looked up to this kind-hearted, jovial man whose life closed in the evening of the Sabbath.

He is survived by his wife, his daughter, and one sister.

[Rogers, Charles S.]

In every activity of his long and useful life he was faithful to the many trusts reposed on him. He served with distinction in every position to which he was called and gave freely of his time and money to public service and charitable work. No worthy cause ever failed to elicit his attention and generous support and suffering humanity found a firm and devoted friend in this noble man.

Thruout this community and in various parts of the state his friends, in every walk of life, are legion. All will be shocked and grieved to learn of his sudden and unexpected death which has stunned this community as has no other great event in a decade.

Columbia Republican, Hudson NY, Tue. 21 Nov 1922

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[Rogers, Charles S.]

FUNERAL OF COL. ROGERS WEDNESDAY

It Was One of the Largest That Has Been Held in Hudson in Many Years.

All that was mortal of the late Charles S. Rogers was tenderly laid to rest in Cedar Park cemetery Wednesday afternoon. Hundreds of friends of the deceased, not only from this city but from many others, were present and paid their final tribute to one they held so dearly. It was one of the largest funerals held in Hudson in many years. His late home on upper Warren street was filled with sorrowing relatives and friends when the funeral services began. They were simple in character and followed the impressive rites for the dead of the Universalist church, of which Col. Rogers had long been a faithful member. The services were conducted by the Rev. G. [George] Delbert Walker, President of the State Universalist Association [New York State Convention of Universalists] and former pastor of the Hudson church. During the impressive service he touched upon the kindness of character that had marked the life of the deceased, of his faithfulness in support of his church, and of his benevolence.

The committal services at the grave were conducted by Aquila Lodge, No. 700, F. & A. M., of which the deceased was a member. Past Master 11, Augustus Hallenbeck officiated.

The casket was carried by porters, with the following long-time and intimate friends of the departed acting as the honorary bearers: John L. Crandell, of Phimont, County Judge; William A. Harder, of Kinderhook, former Mayor of Hudson; Charles S. Harvey, former Mayor of Hudson; Everts Ten Broeck, of directors' board of Farmers' National Bank; Fred S. Hallenbeck, cashier of Farmers' National Bank; Delbert Dinehart, President of Hudson River Trust Company; Harry C. Miller, former Fire Commissioner from Evans Hook & Ladder Co., and Edward L. Decker, for many years manager of the Rogers wholesale house.

Members of Aquila Lodge, F. & A. M., and of the Board of Directors of the Farmers' National Bank, attended in a body. Representatives of the State Prison Commission and of the Board of Trustees of the State Firemen's Home, of which the deceased had been a member, attended, as did members of other organizations.

There were nearly one hundred beautiful floral tributes, including those from the Masonic bodies, the Elks, the fire companies, Warden Lawes of Sing Sing prison, and the State Firemen's Home. The latter piece was purchased by the old veterans of the Home with their spending money and testified to the love and esteem in which Col. Rogers was held by these old friends.

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