

[Van Zandt, Minnie R.]

MINNIE VAN ZANDT DIES
For More Than Thirty Years Teacher in Public Schools Here

The death of Miss Minnie Van Zandt, who taught for many years in the grammar and high schools of this city occurred on Friday night at the General Hospital, where she had been ill for more than a year. Miss Van Zandt was regarded as an ideal teacher by her pupils and associates, and many former students of the old Rochester Free Academy and East High School learned of her death with sorrow.

Miss Van Zandt was born in Rochester in 1850, a daughter of John J. and Mary Van Zandt. She taught in No. 12 and No. 18 schools from 1878 to 1886 and then was appointed teacher of algebra at the Rochester Free Academy, now the municipal building, in South Fitzhugh street. She was added to the staff under Principal Wilcox with the opening of East High School in 1908 and taught there until June, 1914, when her health failed and she did not return. Her thirty years of service entitled her to a pension, but she refused to be placed on the retired list, saying that she soon would be able to resume her duties.

"Miss Van Zandt was a most remarkable teacher," said Mr. Wilcox yesterday. "Her power over the girls and boys who came into her classes at East High was unique, and there are two generations of men and women in Rochester today who feel that they owe the success of their high-school work to her efforts. She devoted herself absolutely to her work and no effort was too great for her in the service of her pupils."

Frank E. Glee, deputy city comptroller, who taught Latin at the R.F.A. when Miss Van Zandt was there, said she never spared herself when there was a question of helping a pupil. She was the only one of the women teachers who took an interest in the athletic activities of the school, he said, and she was present at all contests.

The funeral will take place from the home of her brother, C. [Clarence] D. Van Zandt, No. 96 Rutgers street, at 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. Burial will be private.

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester NY, Sun. 27 Feb 1916

[Van Zandt, Minnie R.]

Minnie R. VanZandt [sic]

In the death of Miss Minnie R. VanZandt [Van Zandt] our church loses one of its most useful members. Though kept away from church in recent years by failing health which finally resulted in the long and painful experience from which death was the only possible release, Miss VanZandt's work for our church and especially for our Sunday School is not likely soon to be forgotten.

Miss VanZandt was one of the ablest as well as one of the most popular teachers in the public schools of Rochester. Her well-furnished mind, high standards and ideals for work, her courage and above all else her loyalty to her work and to the pupils in whom she took so deep and genuine a personal interest, combined with her winning and attractive personality made her a most effective teacher. It would hardly be possible to overestimate the sum total of her inspiring influence upon two generations of pupils. If we are to measure life not by length of years but by the amount of work done and influence given, her life will rank in value among the first.

The sympathy of all our people is offered to Mr. L. [Llewellyn] H. VanZandt [her brother] and the other members of his family who share with him so great a loss. They will be comforted by the thought that the influence of a good life is even more enduring than the memories of it, which they will cherish in their hearts.

Out Outlook, First Universalist Church, Rochester NY, Fri. 3 Mar 1916

Transcribed on 16 Sep 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY