

USEFUL CAREER ENDED BY DEATH

Judge P. F. Edwards, Sick Only Since Saturday, Passes Away.

Judge Peyton F. Edwards, resident of El Paso for 32 years and prominently connected with the early and recent development of the city, died at his residence, 1143 Nevada street, Friday morning at 10:20 o'clock, after an illness dating from last Saturday evening.

Judge Edwards was 73 years of age, and is survived by his widow, one son, assistant city attorney and former sheriff Peyton J. Edwards, and two daughters, Mrs. John S. Alken, of New York city, and Mrs. Clara S. Herpel, of Allston, Mass., both of whom were notified by telegraph of his death Friday morning.

The funeral will take place at 4:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, with Rev. Fuller Swift, of the church of St. Clement, officiating. Interment will be in Evergreen cemetery. Masons of El Paso lodge No. 130, of which decedent was a life member, will attend.

Long, Useful Career.

Judge Edwards was a grandson of Hayden Edwards, one of the "impresarios," or men who secured grants in Texas from Mexico for settlement by colonists from the United States. The judge was born in Nacogdoches county in 1844, where he served as district judge and which he represented in the state legislature a number of years, being speaker of the house of representatives in 1875.

He came to El Paso county in 1886 and has been prominent since then as an attorney and as one of those developing El Paso realty. He was for a long time the law partner of the late judge H. H. Neil, of the court of civil appeals, and was the attorney for the East El Paso Townsite Co., Texas & Pacific railroad and a number of other realty organizations, in many of which he was a stockholder.

Prominent in Civic Affairs.

In civic and social life, the judge was always prominent. He was secretary of the old volunteer fire department for a long time, president of the Toltec club in 1906 and a moving spirit in the old McGinty club, which did so much for El Paso in a civic way.

Fraternally, the judge was prominent as a Mason and a Knight of Pythias, being the organizer of the local lodge of the latter organization, and at the time of his death president of the district encowment rank of the order.

As a patriot, judge Edwards has a record as a civil war veteran, having served through the war of the early '60's as a cavalryman, and being at the time of his death a member of John C. Brown post, United Confederate Veterans.

"A Most Honorable Man."

"Judge Edwards was one of the most honorable men I have ever known," said A. P. Coker, also a pioneer. "Early in his life, he failed in business because of his liberality in endorsing the paper of a number of acquaintances, and he spent the greater part of his days paying these debts. While he was always popular with his fellow citizens, the judge persistently refused to accept any public office."

Judge Edwards sat, however, in a number of cases as special judge during his residence here.

Arrangements for Funeral.

Members of the bar association will meet at 6 o'clock Saturday morning in the first district courtroom for the purpose of making arrangements for the funeral.