

# Offices To Close Today To Honor J. M. Escajeda Taken By Death Suddenly

## Funeral For Former County Auditor Will Be Held At 9 A. M.

Many city and county offices will close this morning in honor of J. A. Escajeda, 66, veteran El Paso city and county official, who died suddenly at the family residence, 1418 East Vandell boulevard, yesterday.

Funeral services for Mr. Escajeda will be held at St. Patrick's cathedral at 9 a. m. today, with the Rev. David J. Kirgan officiating. Burial will be in the family plot in Evergreen cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers will be W. H. Burges, W. D. Howe, E. B. McClintock, P. R. Price, Ballard Coldwell and Maj. J. S. Mooney. Active pallbearers will be J. J. Flores, Frank Alderete, J. N. Phillips, W. D. Greet, Sam Elias and Domingo Montoya.

### Death Is Surprise.

Mr. Escajeda had been in poor health since he suffered from a nervous breakdown three years ago while serving as county auditor. His death was unexpected, however.

He was born at San Elizario, Tex., March 6, 1866, when that town was the seat of most of the activity in El Paso county. He received his early education there in the first public school in the county.

His political career started in 1892 with his appointment as district

clerk to succeed Howell Brown, who died in office. In 1905 he was employed by the city and remained an employe of the municipal government until 1908, when he resigned to accept a commission as a deputy sheriff.

### Elected District Clerk.

In 1911 Mr. Escajeda was appointed county auditor, but resigned in 1912 to make a successful campaign for election as district clerk. In 1917 he became county auditor and remained in that position until 1931, when he was forced to resign because of poor health.

In recounting his early history, Mr. Escajeda often told his more intimate friends of life on the border in the "early days." He often told of the famous "salt war" which raged in El Paso county as the result of dealers attempting to make charges for salt from the lakes in the Guadalupe mountains.

### Feared Indians.

He also recalled the construction of a great adobe wall around the town of San Elizario to prevent surprise attacks from fierce Apache Indians.

He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. A. F. Trevino, Los Angeles; Mrs. R. N. Longuemare, San Elizario; Mrs. E. F. Flores and Miss Josephine Escajeda, El Paso; one son, J. Marziel Escajeda, El Paso; three brothers, Francisco and E. A. Escajeda of El Paso, and J. M. Escajeda of Fabens, and 12 grandchildren.