

# Captain J. B. Gillett Dies of Heart Attack

Noted Ranger, Pioneer  
E. P. Marshal To Be  
Buried in Marfa

Captain J. B. Gillett, 80, for many years a Texas Ranger and Indian fighter, died today of a heart ailment at Temple, where he had been receiving treatment for the last four weeks.

His body will be sent to Marfa for burial.

Telegrams containing news of Captain Gillett's death were received in El Paso by relatives and by J. W. Kirkpatrick and Eugene Cunningham, who wrote a biographical sketch of the famous officer.

James Buchanan Gillett was one of the most famous of the Texas Rangers during the days when the Lone Star State's frontier was still being established.

He fought the Comanches, Kiowas, Lipans and Apaches. He killed the notorious Dick Dublin when the desperado had West Texas counties terrorized. He created an international "situation" when he crossed the Rio Grande to bring back a Mexican murderer.

Captain Gillett was known as the ranger who never backed up.

From his term as ranger he succeeded to the job as marshal at El Paso, sheriff of Presidio County,



Capt. James B. Gillett

and deputy United States marshal.

Gillett was assistant El Paso city marshal under the celebrated Dallas Stoudenmire in 1882, and succeeded Stoudenmire as marshal when the latter resigned.

In his book, "Six Years With the Texas Rangers," Gillett describes the lawless early-day history of El Paso and some of its bloody gun feuds.

He made a near fortune in the  
(Continued on Page 10)

# DEATH TAKES NOTED RANGER

*(Continued from Page One)*

cattle business with his Barrel Springs ranch at Marfa.

## Joined At 18

He joined the Rangers on June 1, 1875, when he was only 18 years old and served for more than six years with that fearsome tribe of law enforcers.

During that time he worked with several Ranger companies. Under Lieutenant N. O. Reynolds in 1878 he was picked to "get" Dick Dublin.

He took five men on a five-day scout.

Their hunt was fruitless until the fourth day. On foot they closed in on a suspicious ranch house. From it ran Dublin. As he reached a thicket he turned and began to fire. But Gillett's trigger finger was the quickest. One bullet ended the career of notorious Dick Dublin and earned Gillett a handsome reward.

When the Baca brothers, Abran and Enofre, murdered A. M. Conklin, editor of the Socorro, N. M., Sun in April 1881, Gillett, who had earned a name as the Ranger's criminal hunter, was commissioned on the job.

## Rejects Bribe

It did not take him long to find Abran at the Ysleta home of an uncle, who was an El Paso County judge. The judge offered Gillett \$1000 to turn Abran loose. Gillett refused and collected his \$500 reward instead.

Meanwhile Enofre fled across the Rio Grande. No co-operation forthcoming from Mexican officials, Gillett dared to cross the international river after the fugitive.

Enofre had secured occupation, under his own name, as a clerk in a Zaragosa, Mexico, store.

Gillett, with a Ranger volunteer, raided the town, kidnaped Enofre and escaped across the river after a four-mile run under withering gun fire.

Official notes flew between Washington, Austin and Mexico City but Enofre was tried and convicted.

## Loses Hat Brim

Gillett's Indian raids were practically daily occurrence. He was picked for the jobs because of his courage. His most narrow escape came when an Apache shot the brim from his ten-gallon Stetson hat.

Captain Gillett's collection of guns and historic Texas relics in a one-room stucco building at his Marfa home is said to be one of the state's most treasured.

He was the son of a major in the war against Mexico when Texas won its independence and the adjutant-general under Sam Houston.

Survivors include his widow; two sons, Milton of Marfa and Harper of San Antonio; three daughters, Mrs. Lee Evans of Albuquerque, Mrs. G. W. Evans Jr., of Beaverhead, N. M., and Mrs. Lee Wilson of Ozona. All except Mrs. G. W. Evans Jr., were at his bedside in Temple when he died.

Mrs. Lee Evans and Mrs. G. W. Evans Jr., are daughters-in-law of Mrs. Kate Evans, 2100 Grant avenue.

Funeral services may be held at the First Christian Church in Marfa tomorrow with the Masonic Lodge in charge of graveside services.