

## Pioneer Southwestern

## Woman Dies at Age of 81

Mrs. Lou Chastain Gillett, pioneer Southwestern resident and widow of the late Capt. J. B. Gillett, noted Texas ranger and pioneer El Paso city marshal, died in a hospital here yesterday. She was 81.

Funeral services will be held at

2:30 p. m. tomorrow in the First Christian Church of Marfa, Rev. L. D. Anderson, pastor of the Fort Worth Christian Church, officiating.

**Burial at Marfa**

She will be buried in Marfa Cemetery under direction of Kaster and Maxon.

She is survived by three daughters, Mrs. G. W. Evans of Magdalena, N. M.; Mrs. Lee Evans of Albuquerque, N. M., and Mrs. Lee Wilson of Ozona; and by a son, Milton E. Gillett. Captain Gillett died in 1937. They had been married 48 years.

Mrs. Gillett was born Lou Chastain, in San Marcos, and was married to Captain Gillett, then sheriff of Brewster County, May 1, 1889.

**Birthday Remembrance**

Since her husband's death Mrs. Gillett had spent most of her time with their only son, Milton, at the Barrel Springs Ranch, near Valentine. Captain Gillett had chosen the land as the site of his future home 70 years ago, when he was a lieutenant in the Texas Rangers, chasing Apaches and outlaws in the Davis Mountains.

On her 81st birthday on March 29 at Southwestern General Hospital Mrs. Gillett received a birthday remembrance and Easter card from her girlhood chum the former Mamie Hord of Goliad, who married J. W. Garnett, who changed the name of Murpheyville to Alpine.

The careers of both women were representative of the courageous womenfolk who brought civilization to the "last Wild West."

**Romance in Alpine**

As girls the two friends went together to Alpine to visit relatives and there met their future husbands. At that time Captain Gillett already was a glamorous law enforcement officer with a record of hair-raising adventure.

Gillett's father had been adjutant general of Texas. The son joined the Rangers in 1875, when under age. Because of his daring, cool head and good conduct, young Gillett soon earned promotion. When Victorio, Apache chieftain, led his warriors on murderous raids below El Paso and into Chihuahua, Gillett was assigned to Capt. George W. Baylor's Ranger battalion, which was directed to end Victorio's pillage.

**Successor to Stoudenmire**

In accomplishing this mission young Gillett became an almost legendary character. Once he disregarded military and international law to conduct a personal raid into Mexico to "get his man" from under the guns of numerous guards. His flight on a single horse, with his desperate prisoner, was a widely publicized exploit.

Captain Gillett left his mark on El Paso by his efficient administration as city marshal. He was deputy marshal and successor to Dallas Stoudenmire, who, according to local historians, created as much turbulence in early day El Paso as he subdued.

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