

Mrs. B. F. Hammett, Pioneer El Pasoan, Called By Death

Mrs. B. F. Hammett, pioneer El Pasoan, died at her home, 319 Mills street, this morning at 5 o'clock.

Death followed an illness of several years, during which Mrs. Hammett had been confined to her bed. She was 74 years old last October. She had lived in El Paso for 29 years.

Mrs. Hammett is survived by a son and a daughter, Mrs. B. L. Farrar and Paul P. Hammett, both of El Paso. Her husband, B. F. Hammett, a former mayor, died here in 1910.

Dauntless faith in El Paso and love of its institutions were embodied in the life of Mrs. Hammett, according to her friends.

"She would not leave here, even when another altitude seemed better for her health," said Mrs. J. W. Bowen, family friend and co-worker with Mrs. Hammett in U. D. C. circles.

Proud Of City.

"Though she might have traveled, pride in the city and the city's growth kept her always here.

"Pride in civic organizations made her a heavy donor to all welfare activities. When strength failed her for active work, she continued service by giving.

"U. D. C. work I can tell of particularly, since I worked with her. After entering the Robert E. Lee chapter as a charter member, she gave furnishings for their clubroom, aided the scholarship fund, and in every constructive enterprise."

Mrs. Hammett's faith in El Paso, born of pioneer days and extending to the city's future, was recalled by her daughter, Mrs. Farrar.

Property bought by Mr. Hammett in early days was saved by his widow during boom and slump. Neither depression nor war prices could induce her to sell.

Values Have Grown.

Justification for her faith is seen today in properties left by Mrs. Hammett. Values have grown with the city, land holdings in the business district mounting beyond pioneer dreams.

Wealth of Mrs. Hammett has been used benevolently, according to friends. To the local Elks society she has been particularly generous in cooperating with social and charitable activities.

Children who had never seen the white-haired woman loved her name. Hammett children parties have been famous in El Paso for years, as boys and girls of the Elks have met for a glorious spree of eating all the ice cream and dainties boys and girls can eat.

Annual custom has been continued by Elks, though Mrs. Hammett had been too ill to attend parties during the last three years. And celebrations will continue each May, a memorial in happiness of children, according to Barry Hagedon, head of local Elks.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon in Peak-Hagedon-undertaking parlors, Rev. Will Hogg officiating.

Pallbearers will be Frank Coles, John Wyatt, Henry Beach, J. H. Pollard, Maj. Vincent Meyer and Frank Murchison.