

War hero's Gold Star mother dies in El Paso nursing home

Clara Jane Hawkins, a Gold Star Mother, died early today at Rest Haven Nursing Home where she had lived for the past several years.

She was the mother of 1st Lt. William Deane Hawkins, who died in the World War II Battle of Tarawa, Nov. 21, 1943, and for whom the Deane Hawkins Detachment of the Marine Corps League is named. The airfield on Tarawa was named for him, as was a destroyer, the USS Hawkins, which was christened by his mother.



Clara Hawkins

MRS. HAWKINS received the Con-

gressional Medal of Honor, awarded posthumously to her son for outstanding heroism in the Battle of Tarawa, from then President Franklin D. Roosevelt, at ceremonies at the White House.

She was a teacher in the El Paso Independent School System for more than 40 years and later in Catholic schools. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Phi Beta Kappa, Gold Star Mothers, the United Methodist Church, and was a graduate of Gregg College, Chicago.

Survivors are her brother, the Rev. W.D. Moon, of Raleigh, N.C.; a niece and nephew.

Kaster-Maxon and Futrell will announce details of services, which will include the according of military honors. The body will be cremated and Marines will take the ashes to the Punchbowl, in Hawaii, to be scattered on the grave of her son.