

Albert Mathias, El Paso Pioneer, Dies at 84

Albert Mathias, one of El Paso's pioneer citizens, died early today at his residence at 607 West Yandell boulevard, following an illness. He was 84.

Mr. Mathias was born in Natzungun, Germany, in 1862 and went to Las Lunas, N. M., in 1882. In 1884, he came to El Paso and for a short period, before El Paso was the county seat, operated a store at Ysleta. In 1889, he operated a retail store at South El Paso and Overland streets.

Erected Building in 1900

In 1890, Mr. Mathias entered the wholesale dry goods business at the same location, and in 1900 he erected the building at Mesa avenue and Overland street where his wholesale drygoods store, Albert Mathias and Co., is now located.

Mr. Mathias married Miss Frieda Cohen of Bodenfelde, Germany, in 1892. Mrs. Mathias died in September, 1943.

Owned Hotel Site

Mr. Mathias was active in the civic and charitable organizations in El Paso for many years. He always had faith in El Paso and its future growth.

In 1920, he bought property known as the Sheldon Hotel site, on which the Hilton Hotel now stands.

His wholesale business has been operated continually since 1890 and covers the entire southwest, with a branch located at Phoenix.

Funeral Rites Monday

He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Maurice Schwartz, Mrs. Sidney Mayer, Mrs. Kurt Spier and Mrs. E. H. Krohn, all of El Paso; nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 10:30 a. m. in the Hagedon-Harding Funeral Home with Rabbi Wendell Phillips officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Sinai Cemetery.

Active pallbearers: Lawrence Calisher, E. H. Schwartz, Luis Zork, Karl Blumenthal, Charles G. Buehler and A. B. Schrock.



Albert Mathias