

SHIPLEY BURIAL RITES PENDING

'Big Kid,' Famous Border Character Dies After Operation Here

Funeral arrangements for Harry N. (Big Kid) Shipley, for many years the best known saloonkeeper on the border, were pending today with Penk-Hagedorn Mortuary.

Mr. Shipley died at City-County Hospital yesterday afternoon following an operation for an intestinal obstruction.

He was 59.

Back in the 90's Mr. Shipley was a tillerman for the El Paso fire department. He later opened a saloon where the Abdou Bldg. is now.

About 20 years ago he opened a bar in the Sauer Bldg., Juarez, and later opened his famous "Big Kid Palace."

Was "Big Kid"

Mr. Shipley weighed 325 pounds and his Palace was the largest cabaret on the border.

In the same building Hipolito Villa, brother of General Francisco (Pancho) Villa, once operated a gambling hall.

During prohibition the crowds flocked to Big Kid's in great numbers. It was considered the liveliest spot on the border. He made money hand over fist.

Hit By Troubles

Labor troubles, competition and the depression finally forced him out of business. The Palace on 16th of September St. became the Gold Palace under new ownership, and later was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Shipley fell on hard times and dropped into obscurity. Recently he had been working as bartender for the Harry Mitchell Brewing Co.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ruth Shipley, 2518 Montana St., two sons, Roy and Buddy Shipley, El Paso, and two daughters, Helen Shipley of El Paso and Mrs. C. E. Moore of Los Angeles.