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## Plane

### Death Takes Paul Thomas, Civic Leader



Paul D. Thomas

Paul D. Thomas, prominent El Paso lawyer and civic leader, died at 11:30 p. m. yesterday at Southwestern General Hospital. He was 60. Death was due to pneumonia and complications. He had been ill two weeks.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a. m. Thursday in the Barry Hagedon Chapel. Rev. Paul Newton Polling will officiate. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be R. W. McAfee, R. B. Kimbrough, Carl Beers, O. C. McConnell, Allen Grambling and Robert Price.

Paul Deen Thomas was born in Newport, Tenn., July 15, 1883, the son of Andrew Jackson Thomas and Annie Smith Thomas.

He was reared in the home of his grandfather, the Rev. D. F. Smith, Presbyterian minister.

He moved with his parents to Cleveland, Tenn., at an early age, and graduated from the Cleveland High School in 1900. Two years later he entered the engineering school of the University of Tennessee, but his interest shifted to a legal career. He was graduated from the University's law school in 1908.

#### Here in 1912

He moved to Birmingham, Ala., to begin law practice in September, 1908, and resided in that city until 1910.

In 1910 a break in health caused him to give up his law practice and come west. He spent a few months at a sanatorium in Denver, and from there he went to Albuquerque before finally settling in El Paso.

He moved to El Paso in ~~September~~ **January** 1912.

Mr. Thomas married Miss Lillian Farr of San Angelo in November, 1919.

He worked as assistant County civil engineer for a short time. Then he entered the local law firm of Goggin and Davis. About 28 years ago he opened his own law office.

Mr. Thomas was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and a 32nd Degree Mason. He served as

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Police Court judge in 1915-16 and as a member of the County School Board for 16 years, and president of the Board for several years. He was an official of the El Paso Country Club, and a member of the El Paso Water Board at the time of his death. He was a past president of the El Paso Bar Assn. and a member of the State Bar of Texas and the American Bar Assn.

#### Director of Bank

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the State National Bank, and a special assistant attorney general of ~~the~~ handling cases involving conscientious objectors.

He was a deacon in the First Presbyterian Church.

One of his most active connections was a member of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, to which he devoted much time and effort.

#### Former Railroad Director

He was associated with, but not in partnership with, William Flournoy, with law offices in the Bas-set Tower.

He enjoyed a wide regional law practice, and was rated as one of the leading lawyers of the El Paso area. He had many close personal friends among lawyers, judges, and citizens in all walks of life.

Mr. Thomas formerly was a director of the Santa Fe railroad.

At his death he was president of the International Warehouse Co. He has farm interests at Fabens and Tornillo, and represented many of El Paso's leading businesses and industries.

He is survived by his widow; a son, Paul F. Thomas, stationed at Buckley Field, Colo., in the Army Air Forces; a daughter, Miss Anne Thomas, a student at the University of Texas; and a sister, Miss Louise Thomas of El Paso.

The family home is at 230 Pennsylvania avenue.

CVF THOMAS