

W. G. WALZ DIES AT SANTA CATALINA

Pioneer El Paso Business
Man and Citizen Passes
Away in California.

William G. Walz, sr., pioneer El Pasoan, died at Avalon, Catalina island, California, Saturday afternoon, and news of his death was received in El Paso late Saturday evening. He was 62 years of age. His daughter, Mrs. L. M. Turner, of El Paso, was with him at the time of his death. His son, Harry Walz, left El Paso Friday night, but did not reach Avalon until after his father's death.

Mr. Walz was a native of Minnesota and came to El Paso as deputy customs collector in 1881, serving under collector Tibbets for two years. He then engaged in the curio, piano and sporting goods business on his own account and organized the W. G. Walz company, which he later incorporated. He opened branches in Juarez, Mexico City, Los Angeles and San Diego, Calif., but later disposed of these interests and devoted his time to the El Paso business until about two years ago, when he retired and left the active management of the business to his sons, Harry and William.

In February, 1913, he moved to Los Angeles after having suffered a paralytic stroke, and lived there until a short time ago, when he moved to Catalina island. His death was sudden. Surviving him are his father and one sister, who reside in California, a widow and five children, Mrs. L. M. Turner, Harry Walz, Mrs. Ethel Walz Currey, William Walz and Miss Eileen Walz, all residents of El Paso.

Starting with a very small capital Mr. Walz built up a big business and accumulated considerable property. About 12 years ago he purchased the building at the southwest corner of San Francisco and El Paso streets, in which the store is located. This property was purchased from the Joseph Schutz estate. He also owned several smaller properties in El Paso, and is believed to have left an estate valued at between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

He was prominent in the upbuilding of El Paso and took much interest in the chamber of commerce in the early days. He was a charter member of the Polite club, a member of the Country club and the Elks, and attended the Church of St. Clement.

The body will arrive in El Paso Thursday and funeral services will be held Friday, and interment made in this city.

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