

Ray Clifford Huddleston

September 18, 1896 – February 10, 1919

(From - The Independent Herald - February 13, 1919)

A Sad Death

From Monday's Daily.

It is our sad duty, today, to chronice the death of Ray Clifford Huddleston, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Huddleston, of Sixth avenue, which occurred at the Huddleston home some hour after midnight last night.

Mr. Huddleston had been ill for several days with what was first thought neuralgia, but later pronounced as an abscess in one of his ears. He suffered greatly from this trouble, but when the physicians operated upon him yesterday, he appeared to be relieved. He was up and walked about his room yesterday and no one thought that his trouble was to be fatal until his mother found him lying on his back in bed about 7:30 this morning, his body still warm, but life extinct. His physician states that the young man's death was due to paralysis of the heart, which was perhaps left in a weakened state by a recent attack of influenza, but from which he had apparently recovered.

Ray Huddleston was a model young man and his untimely death has shocked his many friends and is a terribly crushing blow to his father, mother and sisters. The writer knew him from a mere child; knew of his ambitions and successes and saw him in the prime and promise of young manhood graduate from the Hinton High School with high honors, and later with

just as great distinction, secure his diploma as a pharmacist from Maryland University at Baltimore, Md.; saw him when the spirit of patriotism was uppermost within him, lay aside a remunerative position to answer the call of country to go to Camp Meade, Md., where he remained for five months or until his government issued him an honorable discharge. We also knew of his great love and devotion for those near and dear to him and for whom no sacrifice was too great for him to make.

Ray was bright, ambitious and full of energy. It was his nature to be kind and sympathetic. For several years he had been an efficient employe at Rose's Drug Store—first as clerk and later as a pharmacist. He was a member of the Central Baptist church and a Mason, and in September, 1918, was 22 years of age.

His parents and sisters, bowed with this awful sorrow that has come into their lives, have the fullest sympathy of all. May time soon bring them the rays of sunshine from the cloud that brightens all with the hope that the divine one has taken the souls of their loved ones into His home, there to await the happy reunion beyond the river of death.

LAI D TO REST.

From yesterday's daily issue.

The funeral of Ray Huddleston was conducted in the Central Baptist church this afternoon at 2 o'clock, by the pastor, Rev. H. P. Hackney. The burial which was with Masonic honors, followed in Hill Top cemetery.

A large crowd of friends attended the last sad rites and mingled their tears with the bereaved family in the loss of the beloved young man, whose grave was strewn with the most beautiful and costly flowers that his lodge and friends could secure. It was their humble tribute to a departed one who held their love and esteem in life, and whose memory will remain green in their thoughts in the fathomless future.