2019

Ralph Lamar Webb - Scrapbook Biographical Page

Fay Webb Gardner

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Ralph Lamar Webb

Ralph Lamar Webb, only brother of Mrs. O. Mat Gardner, and the son of Judge and Mrs. J. L. Webb of Shelby, N.C., was born Dec. 15, 1879, and died in a Charlotte hospital after an appendicitis operation, Jan. 9, 1905. He was born in the small home on W. Marion St. next to the large home of his grandparents, Rev. and Mrs. G. M. Webb. He was educated at the Shelby Graded School and at A. & M. College in Raleigh, N.C. He went to Laurinburg, Ga. to be with his uncles Charlie and George Webb in the insurance business, later going to Birmingham, Ala. as a cotton broker, then sent to Фогансли, Ga. for a few years as representative of the firm. He influenced his parents to send his sister, Fay, to school at Lucy Cobb Institute, then an outstanding school for young ladies, with Miss Frank Ciponce and Miss Miller Battleford as President & Principle. He often visited his sister here, taking her and her friends out, and several times to Atlanta, once to see and hear her first grand opera, with George singing. She also visited him at his various points of business and was always doing something for her and his family. His nature was most loving; unassuming, thoughtful to everybody and was exceedingly popular with young and old. He had a charming personality, having a genial and likeable manner, was unusually handsome—6' 2 tall, dark hair, pearly white teeth, clear cut features, dressed neatly and wore the latest style of clothes. He loved music and was beloved by his family. He joined the First Baptist Church when fourteen and was only 26 yrs. old when he died.

He came home in 1904 for Christmas and planned to enter the University of North Carolina to study law but was stricken with an acute attack of appendicitis. As no hospital was in Charlotte, his doctor, Dr. W. J. Mitchell of Salisbury, came over to perform the operation. He was considered the best surgeon nearby for this little known operation, and on Jan. 3, 1905 the operation was performed. Later peritonitis set in and Ralph died Jan. 9, 1905 at 6:30 in the morning. The Charlotte News accompanied his body to the Railway Station in a bulky box at noon. His sister, Fay, came from her school in S.C. and his uncle, Cong. E. L. Webb joined the funeral party. He was buried from the Webb home to Rev. W. C. Poarch & Rev. W. J. Mitchell's church, church the burial and burial and burial. The pall bearers were his old comrades and friends: C. R. Webb, Evans McPhail, Julius Settle, Fred Hamrick, Ed Harmon, & E. H. Webb. He was buried at Shellaneous, church cemetery with Masonic honors, having been a member of the Fergus Lodge, No. 185, 4 A.M., Фогансли, Ga. in Jan. 21, 1902.