



Culver William C



Born Aug 15 1882

Appoint July 10 1911 3-nights with older men

Ass,d July 13 1911 Bear by Chief Perry D Knapp

Promoted May 16 1914 Det-Sergeant

" May 18 1915 Det-Lieutenant

Died Sept 4 1935 3pm in his home. After a short illness

We have no record of his funeral

Put in Court. FILE NO. _____

TOLEDO, OHIO.
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Aug 31

. 19 11

SERGEANT

Glenn

Sir

I arrested John Gillis at 12²⁰ Am.
and sent him in on suspicion
witnessess say that he tried to pick
a Mr. Nolan's pocket at Swin ghampers
saloon on Monroe St. I found him
in the alley behind Bunnell's feed
store on Monroe St. one hour later
I arrested his pal, Gordon Pactor, I
think they would bear an investigation
W. Kubler

PATROLMAN No. 148

Police Headquarters

BULLETIN NO. 307

Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 4th, 1935.

It is with deep regret and much sorrow that I announce the death of Detective William C. Culver who died at 3.00 this P.M.

William C. Culver was appointed a patrolman July 10th, 1911, promoted to Detailed Detective May 16th, 1914, and a regular Detective May 18th, 1915.

Detective Culver served faithfully and well during his time of service and was loved by all who knew him and held in high esteem by his comrades.

Body lies in state at Parks Funeral Home, Jefferson & 22nd St.

Body will be moved to Elks Home at 11.00 A.M., Saturday 7th.

Funeral will be held from the Elks Home on Saturday, at 2.00 P.M.

Burial at Woodland Cemetery.

The body will be escorted from the Elks Home by a guard of honor of 40 patrolmen, in charge of Captain Beseske.

Pallbearers are;

Inspector L. Haas
Captain J. Fruchey
Detective F. Peters

Detective J. Mullen
Detective J. Connors
Detective A. Hassenzahl

All officers assigned to this detail will report at Safety Bldg. Garage 1.45 P.M. Saturday, Sept. 7th.

Flags at all stations will be at half-mast and remain so until after the funeral.

Daniel T. Wolfe
Chief of Police.

Approved;
John A. Price,
Director of Public Safety.



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William Culver

William Culver was a Toledo police detective who had a national reputation for solving crime. He was born in Toledo in 1882. On July 10, 1911 he became a member of the Toledo Police Department and gained the rank of detective on May 16, 1914. He was considered an "ace sleuth," and was especially known for the role he played in rounding up two well-known gangs of robbers.

In 1920 he played an active role in the roundup of the "Cowboy Hill" bank robbers at Franklin Avenue. During the arrest Archie Dennison was killed and Detective Steve Quinn was shot. More importantly, he was responsible for solving the \$1,000,000 Toledo Post Office robbery and the Moreton Bond House robbery in 1921 during which two Detroit policemen were killed.

William Culver's knowledge of the underworld and his ability to remember the faces of criminals were two key factors in solving these crimes. State Senator F. W. K. Tom had witnessed the incident from the Toledo Club and mentioned that one of the robbers wore a mask on the lower part of his face. Culver knew that Charles "Splitlip" Schultz had a facial deformity. He arrested Charles and his criminal friend Joe Urbaytis.

William and his partner, "Big Bill" Delehanty, patiently gathered information from the local underworld. William located a watch stolen in the robbery after he learned from a tip-off that a taxi driver had dropped something down a drain. Culver and his partner found the taxi driver and arrested James Feese who promptly confessed and named the other robbers. Schultz, Urbaytis, and Feese were sentenced to long prison terms in Michigan and Federal prisons.

William Culver also had a reputation for being able to identify a "confidence man" at a distance. Because of this, they "steered clear of Toledo." (Toledo Biography Scrapbook, Local History Collection, Toledo/Lucas County Public Library.)

On September 4, 1935, after an illness of several months, William Culver died of septicemia at the age of 53 years. He was survived by his wife, Blanche. On the day he died the flag was flown at half-staff at the Safety Building. At his funeral police colleagues acted as pall-bearers and his body was "escorted" to the grave by a "platoon of uniformed police." (Toledo Blade, 5 September 1935.) Culver is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in section 145, lot 31.



Historic Woodlawn Cemetery



1502 WEST CENTRAL AVENUE, TOLEDO, OH 43606 419-472-2186

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