

EPILOGUE

It is doubtful, at this late date, that anyone will ever know which of the six men involved in the robbery of the American Express Railway Company truck on April 16, 1928, actually fired the shot that killed Officer George Zientara. With the possible exception of Charles Fitzgerald, all of the men were vicious, practiced killers. All six would be considered guilty under the law existing then and now. Carey, Goetz, Nugent and Winkeler all died violent deaths at young ages, with all of their murders being committed by fellow gangsters. Both Burke and Fitzgerald died in prison.

It is also doubtful that the weapon used to kill Officer Zientara can ever be positively identified. It is assumed that a rifle was used, based on Officer Biskupski's statements, although it is possible that one of the Thompson guns was the murder weapon. It is likely that the two Thompsons that were used in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre were in the possession of the robbers when the Toledo crimes were committed. As shown, these two weapons reappear repeatedly as involved in multiple crimes. Again, it is unlikely that their presence in Toledo can ever be confirmed.

On April 16, 1953, exactly 25 years after his father's death, George Zientara, Jr. was appointed to the Toledo Police Department. He was issued his father's badge. After earning a pension for his police service, he died in 1998 at the age of 70. His mother, Evelyn, never remarried. She died at the age of 60 in 1954. She is buried with her husband in Calvary Cemetery in Section 25, Lot 113, Graves W 1/2.

On the base of an angel sculpture on the top of their parents' tombstone, the following inscription, reminiscent of an old Irish saying for the departed, was left by their three sons:

DAD
WE NEVER GOT TO KNOW YOU
GENE DICK GEORGE

