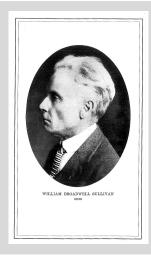


Judge William B. Sullivan A Man of the Community



William Broadwell Sullivan was the oldest son of Stith M. Sullivan. He graduated at the age of 17 in the year 1873 from Central High School and continued his education at Lafayette College, in Easton, Pennsylvania. He graduated from there in 1878, and was a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. William returned to Dayton and then took up the study of law with the office of Gunckel and Rowe and was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1880. He began practicing law immediately and continued until he was appointed by Gov. Myron T. Herrick as Police Judge in 1904 to fill the unexpired term of Judge E. T. Snediker who had been promoted to the Common Pleas bench. In November 1904, William was elected to the same office for three years and after fulfilling the term he retired from the bench and resumed the practice of law until 1928 when his health began to fail.

Judge Sullivan filled his position on the bench with distinguished ability and was regarded as very fair and impartial in his decisions. Prisoners who came before him and were charged for the first time with slight misdemeanors were let off usually with a reprimand; habitual offenders received stiff sentences.



Photo: Old Dayton Courthouse. Corner of Main and Third streets.



Judge Sullivan lived at 25 North Robert Boulevard but grew up in a three-story Victorian house on West Second Street across from St. Mary's Street. His childhood home would eventually become the Proctor School of Music. Mr. Sullivan himself was a singer when he was a young man. He understood music and led the music in the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday School located at the corner of Fourth and Ludlow streets. Mr. Sullivan was also a member of the Philharmonic Society of Dayton.

Photo: Dayton Daily News Archives

Judge Sullivan was a faithful and distinguished member of the Masonic Fraternity, being raised a Master Mason in Dayton Lodge No. 147, in which lodge he served for many years as Secretary, and after passing through various chairs, was elected Master of this Lodge in 1910. He also served as Thrice Illustrious Order of the Red Cross in Reed Commandery No. 6 on January 3, 1882, and the Order of the Temple on March 7, 1882, and after filling the stations of Warden, Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Generalissimo, he was elected Eminent



Commander in June, 1909, serving to the end of his term in June, 1910

Judge Sullivan was also a very active and enthusiastic member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, receiving his 32° on January 18, 1883, served as Thrice Potent Master in Gabriel Lodge of Perfection 14°, from March 8, 1901, to March 6, 1903, and received the 33rd and last degree in the Supreme Council on September 18, 1906, an honor and distinction which he greatly appreciated.



His fellow fraternity brothers wrote this at time of his passing.

"Socially he was one of the kindest, gentlest and most lovable of men, possessing an unusually fine sense of honor. He was a member of the Grace M.E. Church and served many years on its Official Board. His friendship was as true as steel and his eloquent tongue was frequently heard in Lodge and in Church. Judge Sullivan was one of nature's noblemen and in his death his friends have lost a most delightful companion, the fraternity one of their most honored and respected members and the bar of Montgomery County, one of its ablest and best loved members. Fitting indeed are Shakespeare's lines:

His life was gentle and the elements So mixed in him that nature might stand up And say to all the world, this was a man."



William Broadwell Sullivan

Born: February 13, 1856 Died: January 5, 1929

He is located in Section 10 Lot 222.

You can take your own walking tour at the cemetery or a virtual tour from the comfort of your couch by visiting our website at: woodlandcemetery.org/tours.

From your phone you will be prompted to download our app. Take one of 12 walking tours we have available for your enjoyment at the cemetery. If you are on your desktop, laptop or tablet, you can take the tour right from the tour page. We will be adding more tours so come back often to learn about the men and women who made it Great in Dayton.

Download the mobile app for your phone by clicking here.





THANK YOU for supporting us through our 180th Anniversary!

We hope you will continue to support the Woodland Arboretum Foundation as we move through 2022. Support of the Chapel restoration and preservation project is our most critical need as you will soon see the outside of the Chapel and Administration Building receiving new sandstone pieces and eroding and disintegrating elements

replaced. Once the stonework is complete, the beloved Tiffany windows will return and put back in place. The Tiffany mosaic floor will be restored and the beautiful interior woodwork will also receive a facelift. We are hopeful to open the doors to the public once again in late 2022.

Please consider making a first time donation or an annual donation to the Chapel Fund. Donate on our secure website by clicking below or click on the check to receive a donation form to mail in.





Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum | Visit our website!





