

Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery Inventory

Lot Number: 42 Space: F

State and Water Streets, Dover DE 19903

Walking Tour #15

Find A Grave # 7367719

Name: **Kenney, Richard Rolland**

Birth date: September 9, 1856 Death date: August 14, 1931 Burial Date: August 17, 1931 Age: 74
Laurel, Sussex County, DE

Spouses: First: Harriet Calley *Pennewill* Kenney (1860-1907), m. December 21, 1881; Second: Marianita "Nita" *Walker* Kenney (1859-1946) m. March 3, 1908

Children: Lillias Brooks *Kenney* Tremaine Stockley (1882-1922); Richard Rolland Kenney Jr. (1883-1895); Caleb Samuel Kenney (1888-1943)

Parents: Samuel Kenney (1833-1899) and Hettie *Short* Kenney (1836-1916)

Siblings: Samuel Lan Kenney (1858-1836); Solomon Short Kenney (1858-1936); Sidney Kenney (1864-1934);

Residence: Dover, DE

Cause of death: Chronic nephritis, chronic myocarditis

Service/occupation information: National Guard: Colonel; Adjutant General
WW I: Judge Advocate, General's Dept.
U.S. Senator 1897 - 1903
Member Democratic National Committee; Chairman of the Democratic State Committee
State Librarian
Counsel for State Legislature and Kent Co. Levy Court



Officiate:

Lot Owner: Richard Rolland Kenney

MARKER: Sarcophagus shared with 2nd wife Marianita

Inscription:

Richard Rolland Kenney
Born September 9, 1856 – Died August 14, 1931

DIMENSIONS: H 17" x W 30" x D 70"

STYLE: Sarcophagus

Lot barrier is partially buried

Repairs needed: cleaned 2022



Inventory date: February 2, 2020 Recorder: Ellen Richardson

Mt. Carmel Item, Mt. Carmel, PA, March 4, 1908
 Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, PA

Sunday March 15, 1908

Former Senator Married.
 Dover, Del., March 4.—Former United States Senator Richard R. Kenney and Miss Marianita Walker, both of this town, were married at the residence of the bride, Rev. S. J. Cleeland, pastor of the First Baptist church, officiating. None but the immediate relatives of the two families was present. The house decorations were potted plants, smilax and cut flowers. The bride was gowned in pink crepe de chine. Mr. and Mrs. Kenney left for a short wedding trip. Mr. Kenney has been a widower for about a year.

Mount Carmel Item, Mt. Carmel PA, March 4, 1908

Post-Nuptial Cards.
 Cards have been received by several Pittsburg friends of Miss Marianita Walker, of Dover, Del., announcing her marriage to Senator Richard Rollins Kenny. The bride has many friends in Pittsburg who were former classmates. Miss Walker is an alumna of St. Xavier's Academy, Beatty, Pa., and has visited Mrs. William Hoeveler, of Fifth avenue and Emerson street. Mrs. Hoeveler and her daughter, Genevieve, were among the guests from Pittsburg who attended the wedding. Senator and Mrs. Kenny will make their home in Dover, Del., on their return from an extended wedding trip.

Pittsburgh Press, PA, Sun March 15, 1908

The Evening Star, March 4, 1908

EX-SENATOR KENNEY WEDS.
 Evening Star., March 4, 1908
Miss Nita Walker Becomes Bride of Former National Legislator.
 DOVER, Del., March 4.—Former United States Senator Richard R. Kenney and Miss Nita Walker, daughter of the late William Walker, were married yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride by the Rev. S. J. Cleeland, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of which the bride is a member, and the Rev. H. C. Olmstead, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, of which the bridegroom is a vestryman.
 The guests included some distinguished Dover people and Delawareans. United States Senator Harry A. Richardson and Mrs. Richardson, who is a sister of the bride, arrived from Washington; Mrs. A. E. Watson, another sister and the wife of former United States District Attorney Beniah Watson; former Mayor William H. Walker of Dover; Charles du Pont Walker of Dover, and their families represented the bride's family, together with H. Robert Walker, her brother, who has made his home with his sister.
 From Mr. Kenney's side there were the bridegroom's brother, S. L. Kenney of Laurel; Caleb Kenney, the former senator's son, a student at South Bethlehem; Mayor William Pennewill and William T. Smithers, brothers-in-law by Mr. Kenney's former marriage, and their families.

Mt. Carmel Item, Mt. Carmel, PA
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Mount Carmel Item, Mt. Carmel PA, March 4, 1908

Richard Rolland Kenney, 75, lawyer and former U. S. Senator from Delaware, died in Dover, Del. Chairman Kent County Democratic Committee; also served as attorney for Delaware Legislature on many occasions. Served overseas in World War with rank of Judge Advocate of the 28th Division. Delegate to several Democratic National conventions; member Democratic National Committee from 1896 to 1904.

Star-Gazette, Elmira, N.Y., Sat., August 15, 1931

Name: Richard Rolland Kenney
 Birth Date: 9 Sep 1856 US Congressional Record
 Residence Place: Delaware, USA
 Death Date: 14 Aug 1931
 Elected Office(s): Senator, Representative

Biography: a Senator from Delaware; born in Laurel, Sussex County, Del., September 9, 1856; attended the public schools and Laurel Academy, Delaware; attended Hobart College, Geneva, N.Y.; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1881 and commenced practice in Dover, Del.; State librarian 1879-1881; captain in the National Guard 1880-1889; adjutant general of the State 1887-1891; member of the Democratic National Committee 1896-1908; elected on January 19, 1897, as a Democrat to the United States Senate for the term commencing March 4, 1895, to fill the vacancy caused by failure of the legislature to elect and served until March 3, 1901; unsuccessful candidate for reelection; resumed the practice of law in Dover, Del.; during the First World War, served in the Judge Advocate General's Department 1917-1920; resumed the practice of law in Dover; elected counsel to the State house of representatives in 1921; elected prosecuting attorney by the levy court of Kent County in 1921, serving four years; appointed a member of the State board of supplies in 1921, serving two years; member and secretary of the State public lands commission 1913-1929; died in Dover, Del., August 14, 1931; interment in Christ Churchyard.

STATE OF DELAWARE
 DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH 2159

1. PLACE OF DEATH *Kent*
 County State of Delaware, Registered No. *1337*
 Hundred of Village
 City No. *11 St. G. St.* St. Ward
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred years months days
 If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number

2. FULL NAME *Richard Rolland Kenney*
 (a) Residence: No. St. Ward
(If non-resident give city or township and State)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS				MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
3. SEX <i>Male</i>	4. COLOR OR HAIR <i>White</i>	5. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (write the word) <i>Married</i>	6. DATE OF BIRTH (see 21.01) <i>74</i> Years <i>7</i> Months <i>25</i> Days	7. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <i>Aug 3</i> , 1931, to <i>Aug 14</i> , 1931	8. I last saw <i>Richard Kenney</i> alive on <i>Aug 12</i> , 1931, death is said to have occurred on the date stated above, at
9. If married, widowed, or divorced, HUSBAND or WIFE of <i>Hattie W. Kenney</i>			10. Principal cause of death and related causes of importance in order of causation as follows: <i>Chronic nephritis</i>		
11. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year)			12. Total time (years) spent in this occupation		
13. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <i>Delaware</i>			Contributory causes of importance not related to principal cause: <i>Chronic Hypertension</i>		
14. NAME <i>Samuel Kenney</i>			Name of operation Date of		
15. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <i>Delaware</i>			What test confirmed diagnosis? Was there an autopsy?		
16. MAIDEN NAME <i>Hattie Short</i>			17. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following: Accident, suicide, or homicide? Date of injury Where did injury occur? (Specify city or town, county, and State)		
17. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <i>Delaware</i>			Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place		
18. MOTHER/FATHER Date of Information <i>Richard Kenney</i> (Address) <i>10th Street, Dover, Del.</i>			Manner of injury Nature of injury		
19. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <i>Delaware</i>			20. Was <i>no</i> injury in any way related to occupation of deceased?		
20. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <i>Delaware</i>			If so, specify <i>John Daniel</i> M. D. (Address) <i>Dover, Del.</i>		
21. UNDERTAKER <i>W. H. Kenney</i> Address <i>10th Street, Dover, Del.</i>			22. Local Sub-Registrar <i>H. H. Taylor</i>		
22. FILED <i>August 17, 1931</i>			Local Registrar <i>J. H. Williams</i>		

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE FILED WITH THE LOCAL REGISTRAR WITHIN 72 HOURS AFTER DEATH AND BEFORE INTERMENT OR OTHER DISPOSAL OF THE BODY

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING
 WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
 If space for information should be available, it should be added EXACTLY. REGISTRARS should give CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. EXACT statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

RICHARD R. KENNEY FORMER SENATOR, DIES AT DOVER

Morning News Sat. 8-15-1931

Served as Adjutant General of State Under Several Governors

HELD MANY POSTS

Funeral Services Monday With Interment Private in Christ P. E. Cemetery

Special to The Morning News

DOVER, Aug. 14.—After having been ill for two years, though about at times, Richard Rolland Kenney, a former adjutant general of the State and former United States Senator, died at his home here this morning at 9 o'clock. According to present arrangements, his funeral will take place from his home on Monday at 1 o'clock, standard time, and will be private with interment in Christ P. E. cemetery.

General Kenney was married twice and is survived by his second wife, who was Miss Marianita Walker, daughter of the late William H. Walker, who is a sister of Mrs. Harry A. Richardson, widow of former United States Senator Richardson. His first wife was Miss Harriett Pennewill, daughter of the late John C. Pennewill. There were three children by the first marriage, but the only one living is the son, Caleb S.

(Continued On Page Two)

The Morning News,
Wilmington, DE,
Saturday, August 15,
1931

RICHARD R. KENNEY FORMER SENATOR, DIES AT DOVER

(Continued From First Page)

Kenney. There are no children by the second marriage.

General Kenney served many years in the National Guard, having been Colonel of the regiment and Adjutant General at different times. He was also in the service during the World War in the Judge Advocate General's department.

Mr. Kenney was probably best known as a politician. He was an excellent campaign speaker and the fact of his having served as United States Senator, as a member of the Democratic National Committee for several years and having attended a number of Democratic National Conventions, as a delegate from Delaware made him a national figure and known to Democratic leaders throughout the country.

Held Many Places

In addition to his service in the National Guard, General Kenney has also served as State librarian, counsel for the Legislature, counsel for the Kent County Levy Court and had been chairman of the Democratic State Committee and the Kent County Democratic Committee. He presided over a number of Democratic State conventions and had attended probably every Democratic State convention in Dover for the last half century.

During the sensational disclosures following the robbery of the Dover National Bank about thirty years ago, by William N. Boggs, the cashier, who eventually was imprisoned for that offense, the name of Mr. Kenney, then Senator, was dragged into the case. He was placed on trial in United States Court on a charge of conspiracy, and was acquitted by a jury.

Born Near Laurel

Mr. Kenney was born near Laurel on September 9, 1856, a son of Samuel Kenney, a farmer, born in Sussex County, who died in 1899, and of Hettie (Short) Kenney, who was born in Sussex County, and who died in 1916. He attended the district schools, and the prepared for college in a private academy in Laurel, where he completed his course in 1874. He studied law under Willard Saulebury, then Chancellor of Delaware.

Mr. Kenney was admitted to the Delaware bar in October, 1881. He was elected State Librarian by the Legislature in 1879 and 1881, serving four years; was appointed Adjutant-General of the State, January 1887, serving four years; was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention of 1892, 1900 and 1904; member of the Democratic National Committee from 1896 to 1908; a member of the Democratic State Committee from 1890 to 1917.

Elected U. S. Senator

On January 19, 1897, he was elected to the United States Senate for the term commencing March 4, 1899. To fill the vacancy caused by the failure of the Legislature of 1893 to elect, serving until March 3, 1901, and then resumed the practice of law in Dover.

Upon the entry of the United States into the World War, Senator Kenney began service in the Judge Advocate General's Department, July 12, 1917. In December, 1927, he was assigned Judge Advocate of the Twenty-eighth Division, training with the Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi; embarking for France, September 10, 1918, with his Division; was ordered with the Division Staff to La Mans, November 11, 1918, and on December 1, 1918, to the Board of Contract Adjustment in Paris, serving as a member until May, 1919. Returning to Washington, District of Columbia, May 29, 1919, he was ordered to duty with the Board of Contract Adjustment in that city and served until September, 1919, when he was transferred to the department of sales as associate counsel, where he served until July 20, 1920, when he was honorably discharged on his own application.

Soon after Mr. Kenney's return to Dover he resumed practice of his profession. He was chosen counsel to the House of Representatives of the Legislature for the session of 1921.

Kenney Family

Richard Rolland Kenney, September 9, 1856 - August 14, 1931

Husband of:

Harriet **Calley** Pennewill Kenney, married on Dec. 21, 1881, in Delaware (per marriage certificate)

Marianita Walker Kenney

Father of: (all with Harriet)

Richard Rolland Kenney, Jr., born in Delaware on Dec. 23, 1883 (per birth record: listed as child #2 to this marriage and child #2 to this mother, so there must have been an earlier child who died in infancy)

Lillias Brooks Kenney Tremaine, born in Delaware on Aug. 28, 1884 (per birth records).

Caleb **Samuel** Kenney, born in Dover on Oct. 4, 1888 (per birth certificate)

Son of:

Samuel Kenney (1833-1899) and Hettie Short Kenney (1836-1916), both born in Delaware

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Harriet Calley Pennewill Kenney, September 17, 1860 - February 10, 1907

Wife of: Richard Rolland Kenney (see above)

Mother of: (see above)

Daughter of:

John (G or C) and Jennie (Virginia) Pennewill (from Marriage License of Harriet and Richard; and from 1880 census: John is a State Probate Judge)

Sibling of:

in the 1880 Census, nine children are listed as living with John and Virginia Pennewill: Elizabeth (21); Harriet (19); Robert O. (18); John (15); **Fannie** (13); Arthur (12); Emma (10) and William (8). All born in Delaware.

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Marianita Walker Kenney (June 12, 1859 January 28, 1946)

(Listed in 1910 Census as Margerita W. Kenney. Listed in 1920 Census as Marianita W. Kenney.

Listed in 1930 Census as Maryeta W. Kenney. Listed in 1940 Census as Marianita W. Kenney)

Wife of:

Richard Rolland Kenney (see above)

Mother of:

No biological children identified.

Daughter of:

William **Henry** Walker (1817-1885) and **Elizabeth "Eliza" Stites (1-28-1822 - 2-6-1903)** from "Find-a-Grave" memorial number 7779870, Lakeside Cemetery, Dover, DE. They were married on Jan. 12, 1843. Their daughter, Marianita, ended up living with her sister, Priscilla (or Paiaceila) Walker Ruiandon (Priscilla Walker Richardson) when they were widows. The following are listed as children of William Henry and Elizabeth Stites Walker, along with their approximate dates of birth in a Walker family page, based mostly on Census data: Priscilla (1852); William (1854); H. Robinson (1856); Robert (1857); Marion N. (1859); Mary Anita (1860); Dupont (1866).