

# George J Wilhelm

## 13<sup>th</sup> State Deputy of Oregon 1932-1934



George J. Wilhelm

George J Wilhelm was born on October 24, 1880 in St. Cloud, Wisconsin to George and Agnes Wilhelm. George received four years of educational training in a parochial school. At the age of thirteen he started work as a plumber's assistant to later to work in a hardware store. At the age of nineteen, George became manager of the Aladdin Soap Company. In 1899, George became a traveling salesman for the B. J. Johnson Soap Company and did that for three years when he came to Junction City, OR in 1902 to work with his uncle in the milling business.

George married Cecil O. Rampy of Harrisburg on April 18, 1906. They had 5 children: George R., Elizabeth, Margrie, Millard, Gerta.

In 1907 George founded and organized the First National Bank in Harrisburg.

During the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918, George was instrumental in curbing the disease by caring for patients in the public schools, which were used as hospitals.

Later George retired from the banking business and went into real estate from Harrisburg to Eugene. In 1927 George and his family moved to Eugene, OR.

George was president of the Willamette Valley Baseball league, member of the Elks Lodge, Chairman of the USO in Eugene and originated the slogan, "We own a Liberty Bond".

George was district deputy for three years and two years as Grand Knight of the Eugene Council 1430.

George was quite modest and did not seek public offices or civic honors. George J. Wilhelm died suddenly of a heart attack while undergoing a physical on April 28, 1942. He is buried at Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Eugene, OR.

Cecil Died January 9, 1944 and is buried next to George. Cecil was Grand Regent of the Catholic Daughter of America for four years and a graduate of the University of Oregon in 1894.





*"In these days of the depression, hardships, and social disturbances, a retreat will prove so helpful for the men in the world who are facing so many difficult problems." George J. Wilhelm - May 28, 1934, 26st State Convention, Portland, OR*