

Roger Brass Sinnott

2st State Deputy of Oregon 1910-1912



ROGER B. SINNOTT

Roger B Sinnott was the son of Colonel Nicholas B Sinnott and Mary Brass, born July 15, 1872 in The Dalles, OR.

Colonel Nicholas B Sinnott was born in Ireland and was the owner of the Umatilla House in The Dalles, OR, a luxury hotel, overlooking the Columbia River. It was called "the best hotel west of Minneapolis and north of San Francisco". Colonel Sinnott eventually became Chief U.S. Deputy Marshal, in Portland, OR.

Roger attended University of Notre Dame from 1890-1894. Roger shared the starting fullback position on the 1893 Notre Dame football team, with John Studebaker (son of the President of Studebaker Motors). Roger's older brother, Nicholas, 1892 ND valedictorian, became a prominent 8-term Republican U.S. Congressman and Federal Judge.

On October 12, 1899, Roger married Gertrude L. "Gussie" Lownsdale (pictured at right) in Salem, OR. There are no records to show that they had any children.

In 1908, Roger sought the Republican nomination for District Attorney of Portland, OR. Well known Portland attorney for the final 20 years of his life.

Roger was the fourth Grand Knight of the Portland Council #678 from 1907-1908.

Roger Sinnott was elected 2nd State Deputy of Oregon on May 10, 1910 and served until July 1, 1912, during which period he traveled the state spreading the knowledge of our Order. During his term the State gained five new councils, which brought the total in 1912 to ten, and gained 400 new members. Also, with the Knights at the forefront, Columbus Day became a State Holiday.



"The crowning glory of our work for the year just past and for which I feel justly proud, and the co-operation and assistance of you delegates and members of your different Councils, I wish to thank you, was the establishment of Columbus Day by the last Legislature of our State and its approval by our Government."
Roger B Sinnott - 1911 Sate Convention, Astoria, OR.

On March 16, 1920, at the age of 48, Roger Brass Sinnott, died suddenly. Death was so unexpected that his wife, Gertrude, demanded an autopsy believing that he was poisoned. The coroner concluded could find no evidence of poison and believed he died of a heart attack. The Knights of Columbus arranged for his funeral at St. Mary's Cathedral. Roger is buried at Saint Peters Parish Center Cemetery in The Dalles, OR

Gertrude never remarried and died in 1966 at the age of 89.



The 1893 Notre Dame Football Team Roger Sinnott is 4th from the left, top row



Roger Sinnott's grave in The Dalles