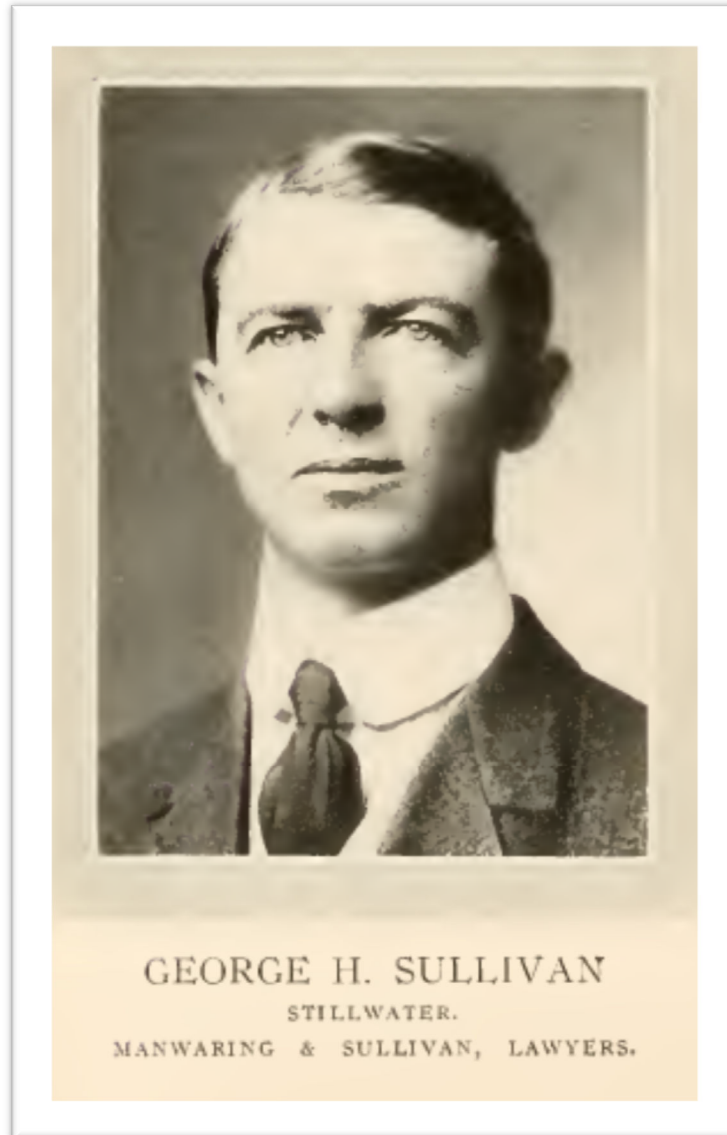


In Memoriam

# George H. Sullivan

[ December 20, 1867 - February 15, 1935 ]



Washington County Bar Association  
District Court  
Nineteenth Judicial District  
Stillwater, Minnesota

March 11, 1935

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

DISTRICT COURT  
NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Memorial

Exercises for the Late George H. Sullivan, who died on February 15, 1935.                      Special Term—March 11, 1935.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED COURT:

The undersigned committee, appointed by the above-named court for that purpose, hereby present the following resolutions concerning the late Senator George H. Sullivan and move that the same be made a part of the permanent records of this court, that a certified copy of the same be forwarded to his widow, and that copies be sent to the public press.

**GEORGE H. SULLIVAN, A MAN, A LAWYER, AND A STATESMAN.**

“George H Sullivan is dead. He passed away this morning while asleep.” This was a shocking message which came to this community, this county, and this state on February 15, 1935. It was almost unbelievable, because George H. Sullivan was a man of such abounding vitality that it was hard to conceive of him as dead. He was the personification of energy and power. Only a short time before, he was pursuing full vigor his manifold activities in the busy walks of life. Though he is gone, his spirit lives on, and will continue to live on through the years to come.

Senator Sullivan was a rugged man of action, but withal a lovable man and a real friend. Beneath a somewhat brusque and gruff exterior, he had a heart of gold. His acts of kindness toward his family and his friends were legion, endeared him to all who knew

him. If you are his friend, he would do anything for you that it was in his power to do.

As a lawyer Senator Sullivan was stood at the head of the profession in the state. A hard worker, a fearless fighter, with resourcefulness possessed by few man, he was recognized throughout the Northwest is one of the ablest lawyers of this generation. Lawyers and courts respected his opinion, juries were swayed by his eloquence, and the general public, because of that honesty and integrity, had absolute confidence in him. He was a lawyer of the old school, his word was always good, and he neither asked nor gave quarter. He was always faithful to his client's cause. The profession has lost one of its outstanding leaders by reason of his untimely death.

It is as a public servant and a statesman that our departed friend was most widely known. His patriotism and love of country were outstanding attributes of his public service. He held many positions of public trust, and served his city, county, state, and nation almost continuously from the time he was a young man until his death.

In his earlier years he served as County Attorney of Washington County and the City Attorney for the City of Stillwater. For the past twenty-eight years he served this county and the State of Minnesota as state senator in a manner which brought credit to himself and honor to the people who chose them year after year to represent them. At the time of his death he had the longest record of service of all the members of the legislature.

His reputation for knowledge of public affairs extended far beyond the borders of the state. In the important field of taxation, of which he made a specialty, his name was known throughout the country. At the time of his death he was chairman of the powerful state senate committee on taxes and tax laws. For number of years he had been president of the association of states on bank taxation, and was the

acknowledged leader of the nation-wide campaign to secure the passage of equitable laws on that subject. He was a statesman in the true sense of the word, because he fought fearlessly for the things he believed to be right, and as vigorously opposed measures which he thought were detrimental to the common good.

Senator Sullivan's achievements and sterling character are attested by comments made upon his untimely passing by his contemporaries in public life.

Governor Floyd B. Olson said: "I became acquainted with Senator Sullivan through our desire to secure passage of certain Federal legislation. What we disagreed entirely in our social, economic, and political philosophy, I admired him for his sincerity."

Lieutenant Governor Peterson said: "I have known Senator Sullivan as a personal friend although he was a political enemy. He was grim, hard-boiled, stern and rugged, but had a warm heart. His word was always good."

State Treasurer Julius A Schmahl said: "I have known Senator Sullivan for fifty years. In his public life he has always done his share toward the progress of the State."

Fred Mayor Fred B. Merrill of Stillwater said: "Stillwater has suffered a tragic loss."

State Senator William Roepka of Faribault said: "In my opinion Senator Sullivan probably was the most able of all of Minnesota's statesmen."

Oscar Leser, state tax commissioner of Maryland, wrote in a letter as follows: "I am really shocked, as you may well imagine, to hear of the

sudden death of Senator Sullivan. I was wondering which way to turn in this emergency.”

Dixwell Pierce, secretary of state Board of equalization of California, wrote: “Word of Senator Sullivan’s death is a great shock to me and fills me with a sense of deep personal loss. During my contact with Senator Sullivan in our bank tax work I had come to have a high regard for him both as an outstanding public servant and a man. The members of our board when the good fortune to know him have shared with me this feeling of respect.

“Although Senator Sullivan will be greatly missed in our bank tax work the splendid example which he set for the rest of us will be an incentive to make us carry on as vigorously and effectively as possible in order that his good work may not go for naught.”

Dancy Fort, commissioner the department of finance and taxation of the city of his of the state of Tennessee, wrote: “I was aggrieved and shocked at the news of Senator Sullivan’s death. I shall certainly try to help carry on where he left off.”

J. M. Lee, comptroller of the state of Florida, paid the following tribute: “Mr. Sullivan had devoted untiring efforts to the objectives of the commission, and it will be difficult to replace him.”

Frontis H. Moore, assistant attorney general of the state of Alabama wrote: “I was fond of Senator Sullivan and greatly admired the stand which he took on the bank tax legislation and the pertinacity which he displayed throughout the long years when most of us developed a rather hopeless feeling of ever accomplishing anything.”

Henry F. Long, commissioner of corporations and taxation of the state of Massachusetts, paid the following tribute: “There is nothing that one man can say in circumstances of this kind but I suppose that it is rather true that if the senator had his choice he would have

selected just this way of passing. He surely died in harness and in a way which to which was perhaps in some respects the best.

“I know that when things like this happen no one is prepared for them and I suspect his people are very much upset. I feel the richer for having known him and shall cherish his memory always. His fighting, driving force and keen insight in the problem was of immeasurable benefit and the effect of his keenness on the national tax program will not be lost in this generation. I sincerely hope that things will go forward under the force created by him, and that the result even though he cannot be here with us to participate in it will be along the lines that he so ably struggled for.”

Philip Zoercher, chairman of the tax commission of the state of Indiana, wrote as follows: “Senator Sullivan was a fearless leader and a man that was always ready to do his duty, at least I found him so in the controversy about having proper legislation on the part of Congress for the assessment of National banks.

“I am sorry that we are without his services, because that will mean that the rest of us will have to work harder and do our very best to accomplish the results that he labored so many years to attain.

“Express to the family my sincerest sympathy and assure them that if services mean anything that he is well taken care of in the spiritual world.”

It is unnecessary to enumerate the many things with Senator Sullivan has been instrumental in doing for the people of his city, county and state. His achievements are well known to us, and will be a monument to his ability through the years. Our children and our children’s children will benefit from his constructive statesmanship.

George H. Sullivan was born in Stillwater, Minnesota, December 20, 1867, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Sullivan. He was educated in the city schools here and then went to Madison,

Wisconsin, where he graduated from the law school of the University of Wisconsin June 20, 1888. Returning to Stillwater, he practiced law in the city since that time. He was first associated with the late Fayette Marsh. Later he became a partner of one of the members of this committee, L. L. Manwaring, and practiced with him for many years under the firm name of Manwaring & Sullivan. At the time of his death and for some years before he was associated with Karl G Neumeier under the firm name of Sullivan & Neumeier. He was married to Miss Kitty Barand of Madison Wisconsin, in 1888. Mrs. Sullivan survives the Senator, as do three children, Katherine, Daniel, and Goodrich.

The passing of George H. Sullivan removes from our midst a commanding figure of our time. His presence in connection with important litigation and public affairs over a long period of years in this courtroom, and other courtrooms of the Northwest, and the Supreme Court, and in the Senate Chamber of this state was a vital force in the life of his generation. As long as any who knew him survive, that presence will be missed. We will always cherish his memory. His life will continue to be an inspiration to those of us who are left to carry on his work. We admired him as a man, respected him as a lawyer, we were proud of him as a statesman, and we loved him as a friend.

Senator George H. Sullivan it is dead but his spirit will live on.

Dated March 11, 1935.

Respectfully submitted,

Reuben J. Hoover  
Chairman

Louis L. Manwaring

Arthur S. Wilson  
Committee

## Appendix

### From the Journal of the Minnesota Senate.

MARCH 14TH, 1935

#### MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR SENATOR GEORGE H. SULLIVAN

Mr. Orr offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

*Whereas*, The Honorable George H. Sullivan has been removed from this body by death during the present session, and C. J. Putzier since the last session, and

*Whereas*, The high character and public service of these men merit an expression of respect and veneration for their memory,

*Therefore, Be It Resolved*, That the President of the Senate be and he is hereby directed to appoint a committee of three members of the Senate who shall arrange for and report such resolutions and memorial exercises as in the judgment of the committee will fittingly express the respect and sentiment which the members of the Senate feel for the memory of their late fellow members.

Which motion prevailed.

Which resolution was adopted.

Mr. Orr moved that the foregoing resolution be made a Special Order of Business for Tuesday, March 26th, at two o'clock P.M.

Which motion prevailed.

#### MARCH 15TH, 1935 APPOINTMENTS.

Pursuant to the foregoing resolution, the President appointed the following members as a committee on resolutions and memorial exercises: Messrs. Richardson, Neumeier, Ruotsinoja.



On Tuesday afternoon, March 26th, 1935, at two o'clock, the President called the Senate to order, and recognized the Senator from Olmsted, Mr. Richardson.

Mr. Richardson announced the order of business to be the memorial exercises set pursuant to Senate Resolution No. 13 passed and adopted on March 14th, 1935, in honor and memory of the late Senators George H. Sullivan and C. J. Putzier.

### MEMORIAL SERVICES.

....

The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Washington, Mr. Neumeier, who presented and read the following Memorial Resolution on behalf of the committee:

*To the Honorable State Senate of Minnesota:*

Your special committee appointed for the purpose of preparing a memorial resolution commemorative of the life and service of the late George H. Sullivan of Washington County, who was a member of this body at the time of his death, respectfully submits the following:

On Friday morning, February 15, 1935, this body was shocked and stunned to learn that George H. Sullivan had died during the early hours of that morning. His death came without any warning whatsoever.

He was born in Stillwater, Minnesota, on December 20, 1867, attended the local schools and during the summers worked for the Boom Company rafting logs on the St. Croix river. To this hard outdoor work during his youth he attributed his rugged physique. He completed his schooling at the University of Wisconsin and there obtained his Degree of Law in 1888 at the age of twenty years and

immediately commenced practicing law in the city of Stillwater and continuously thereafter and until his death followed his profession in that city.

As a young man he at once became interested in public service and within three years from his graduation from law school he became elected county attorney of Washington County. Later he was appointed city attorney of the city of Stillwater holding that office from 1901 to 1907. In the fall of 1906 he was elected State Senator from Washington County and from that time on he served continuously in this body and at the time of his death was the dean of the Senate of the State of Minnesota.

As a lawyer George H. Sullivan soon gained recognition for his outstanding ability. Perhaps the greatest practical tribute that can be paid him in that respect is that many other outstanding lawyers frequently called upon him to assist them in the preparation and trial of their more difficult cases. At recent memorial services held at Stillwater in the District Court, the Honorable Alfred P. Stolberg, before whom Senator Sullivan tried many cases, publicly paid high tribute to George H. Sullivan as a lawyer saying that while possibly some other lawyers may have excelled him in certain specialized branches of the law, that Sullivan nevertheless was without doubt the best all-around trial lawyer to ever try a case before his court. The Judge said that as a lawyer George H. Sullivan was successful because he always diligently prepared his law and knew what the facts were in each case; that he thoroughly knew the law of evidence and was resourceful and practical and was able always to immediately diagnose any situation as it arose. He never tried to mislead any Court either as to law or facts and the courts always respected his opinions and no one ever questioned his integrity.

He was a member of the American Bar Association, the Minnesota State Bar Association and his local bar association.

It was perhaps as a statesman that George H. Sullivan was best known. To laud before this body his ability and his history as a public servant is to carry the traditional coal to Newcastle. His record, his deeds and his accomplishments are so fresh in our memory that they now speak much more eloquently than any words we might add here.

As we all know our departed friend was for a number of years president of the association of States on bank taxation and was looked upon as the acknowledged leader of the nation-wide campaign to secure the passage of equitable laws on bank taxation. He was nationally known as a statesman of ability because he always fought fearlessly for the things he believed to be right and vigorously opposed measures which he believed detrimental to the common good. No one ever had any doubt as to where he stood on any measure. He was a great patriot and his love of his country was an outstanding attribute.

From all over the nation came expressions of esteem. He was appreciated not only by us but by men in high position all over the United States. We refer to but a few of these:

Oscar Leser, state tax commissioner of Maryland, in a letter wrote as follows:

"I am greatly shocked, as you may well imagine, to hear of the sudden death of Senator Sullivan. I am wondering which way to turn in this emergency."

Dixwell Pierce, secretary of the state board of equalization of California, wrote:

"Word of Senator Sullivan's death is a great shock to me and fills me with a sense of deep personal loss. During my contact with Senator Sullivan in our bank tax work I had come to have a high regard for him both as an outstanding public servant and a man. The

members of our, board who had the good fortune to know him have shared with me this feeling of respect.

"Although Senator Sullivan will be greatly missed in our bank tax work the splendid example which he set for the rest of us will be an incentive to make us carry on as vigorously and effectively as possible in order that his good work may not go for naught."

Dancey Fort, commissioner of the department of finance and taxation of the State of Tennessee, wrote:

"I was greatly grieved and shocked at the news of Senator Sullivan's death. I shall certainly try to help carry on where he left off."

J. M. Lee, comptroller of the State of Florida, paid the following tribute:

"Mr. Sullivan had devoted untiring efforts to the objectives of the commission, and it will be difficult to replace him."

Frontis H. Moore, assistant attorney general of the State of Alabama, wrote:

"I was fond of Senator Sullivan and greatly admired the stand which he took on the bank tax legislation and the pertinacity which he displayed throughout the long years when most of us developed a rather hopeless feeling of ever accomplishing anything."

Henry F. Long, commissioner of corporations and taxation of State of Massachusetts, paid the following tribute:

"There is nothing that one can say in circumstances of this kind but I suppose that it is rather true that if the senator had his choice he would have selected just this way of passing. He surely died in harness and in a way which was perhaps in some respects the best.

"I know that when things like this happen no one is prepared for them and I suspect his people are very much upset. I feel the richer for having known him and shall cherish his memory always. His

fighting, driving force and keen insight in the problem was of immeasurable benefit and the effect of his keenness on the national tax program will not be lost in this generation. I sincerely hope that things will go forward under the force created by him, and that the result even though he cannot be here with us to participate in it will be along the lines that he so ably struggled for."

Philip Zoercher, chairman of the tax commission of the State of Indiana, wrote as follows:

"Senator Sullivan was a fearless leader and a man that was always ready to do his duty, at least I found him so in the controversy about having proper legislation on the part of congress for the assessment of National banks.

"I am sorry that we are without his services, because that will mean that the rest of us will have to work the harder and do our very best to accomplish the results that he labored so many years to attain.

"Express to the family my sincerest sympathy and assure them that if I services mean anything that he is well taken care of in the spiritual world."

Doubtless we all feel as that last writer: that we are sorry to be without his services; that we know that we will all have to work the harder and do our very best to carry on the work in which our late Senator took such a deep interest. It is in such a practical manner that we can best show our appreciation of the services and life of Senator Sullivan.

He loved the out-of-doors and enjoyed to the utmost his home on the shores of White Bear Lake where he lived with his loving wife, Kittie E. Sullivan, whom he adored. He enjoyed nothing more than going home in the evening and after dinner taking a walk and then coming back and reading in his library works on history, economics and political science and then discussing these with his wife. He had no

time for frills or pretentiousness but preferred the quiet of his home. Besides his widow to whom he was married on Sept. 4, 1889, he is survived by three children, Katherine E. Sullivan, Daniel C. Sullivan and Goodrich M. Sullivan.

By his death we have lost a plain-living man, an unusually far-sighted public servant, a man who was practical and at the same time high-visioned. He has left us a rich heritage and may we profit by it to the fullest extent.

*Be It Therefore Resolved* by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that while we regret keenly the death and loss of Senator George H. Sullivan that we nevertheless here and now publicly express our deep appreciation of his faithful and efficient service and resolve to commemorate his life by trying to follow his splendid example, always inspired by his memory.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. B. RICHARDSON,  
ARVID RUOTSINOJA,  
KARL G. NEUMEIER.  
Committee.

Dated March 26, 1935.

Mr. Neumeier moved that the foregoing Resolution be adopted. Which Resolution was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

Mr. Neumeier paid the following tribute to the memory of the late Senator George H. Sullivan:

"Mr. President:

With the permission of this Senate, I would like to add a few personal words of appreciation of Senator Sullivan, because of my very, very close relationship and friendship with him during the past

17 years. He was himself such a spontaneous man that I feel that I can scarcely do justice to him in reading the more or less formal resolution of the committee.

About 17 years ago when I first commenced practicing law, I happened to have a case in which Senator Sullivan was the opposing counsel. At the conclusion of that litigation, he came to me and asked me whether I would like to join his office. Of course, I welcomed the opportunity as any young man would have done because of the very outstanding reputation of Senator Sullivan as a lawyer. So from that time on I have been very intimately and closely associated with Senator Sullivan. During that time he was always most generous with me. I have had some people say to me in the past, 'Don't you have trouble getting along with Senator Sullivan?' I am very happy to say that during the past seventeen years of our association, we have never had one unfriendly argument. If I made mistakes, as of course I did, he forgave them and said he expected perfection in no man. He was a most generous man, and he, at all times, without my asking, more than met my anticipation in every respect. Several years ago he voluntarily came to me and said, 'Karl, from now on our partnership will be upon an equal basis'. I protested, and said that because of his greater ability, he was entitled to a greater reward. He said 'No, you are going to do most of the work, and I want to have it that way', and so that was the way it was. Now, how many lawyers of his standing and ability would have been so generous to a younger man. For that reason I want to take this opportunity of dispelling, if there is any feeling, that Senator Sullivan was a hard, stony-hearted man. True, he had an abrupt, brusque manner, but I feel that he adopted that cloak in order to shield too generous a heart. He was a man who never turned down a friend, and if a man were true to him he backed him to the limit. But God have mercy on the man who ever betrayed his confidence. He never forgave him. He was a true friend of the poor man. And I have seen him spend days on litigation for a client who could not afford it, without any hope of expectation of reward. He was their friend, and

this was brought most forcefully to my attention when, at the time of his death, I saw several poor men, clad in overalls, men so poor that even on such an occasion they could not afford to dress up. And I saw these men come and kneel before his body with tears streaming down their cheeks. Friends, nothing moved me more deeply than that. He had one other homely virtue that I would like to refer to. He was almost a fanatic about meeting his obligations and paying bills. The minute a bill came to his desk he had a check made out and sent it out. In earlier life he told me he had to borrow money to pay his debts, but he always paid them. 'Never', said he, 'would a man have to come and dun me'. He took great pride in that, and I think it is a splendid example not only for us, but for the state and nation. He possessed to a great degree that humble virtue common honesty. Friends, as you all appreciate, I have lost my dearest friend. I feel that I have lost my rudder in this turbulent sea of life, but I must sail along in the same course which he has charted. I remember his saying to me upon several occasions, 'Karl, after I am dead and gone you will always look back with pleasure upon that which I have always counseled—the straight and narrow path, and never once suggested anything of which neither you nor I need be ashamed'.

And I recall those truths with and doubt, George H. Sullivan, is gone. To me, Senator George H. Sullivan is immortalized, and I shall always remember him".

The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Ramsey, Mr. Orr, who offered, the following tribute to the deceased members:

"Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

It seems particularly fitting that we pause in our deliberations to pay tribute to those of our members who since our last session have broken the seal of eternity and solved the mystery of immortality. I can add nothing to the splendid memorials which have already been presented. Such lives require no further praise from anyone; they



speaking for themselves. It is a privilege to have known them and to have experienced the impulse of admiration and emulation they inspired. It is stimulating to be moved by their influence along ways of sterling manhood and statesmanship, and to have been permitted to travel part of our journey west in their company.

....

For more than two decades it has been my privilege to serve with Senator Sullivan. For many years Senator Sullivan exercised a wise leadership in this Senate. The record of his labors is indelibly interwoven in the statutes of our state, and the journals of this Senate. In the light of such a record it may well be said of him:

'They do not die who leave their thoughts  
Imprinted on some deathless page;  
They pass, but the work they wrought  
Lives on from age to age'.

Senator Sullivan was a leader by nature; he was one of the finest orators that ever held membership in this body. When he finished the discussion of a matter there was little left to be said. He contributed as much to the education of the opposition as he did to the side he was speaking for, because he dealt with the subject so clearly that if they were opposed to him, they were not only still opposed, but knew better the reasons why that opposition existed. He had that rare ability of going directly to the point at issue. He never lost sight of the substance in the shadow of its drapery. Senator Sullivan was a great student of history. He read it not only for enjoyment, but to better apply its lessons to present day conditions. The pathway of life is strewn with the wrecks of governments and institutions that have gone down in the ravages of time. He always tried to learn the reasons for the downfall of governments that he might better protect the one he loved so well. His work in maintaining the traditions of the Senate on a high and lofty plain have made it a desirable place in which to work. He always insisted upon a strict enforcement of the

rules, knowing that rules largely exist for the protection of a minority. He also insisted upon order and decorum in the highest degree. I have no purpose to picture Senator Sullivan as one without faults. Like all of us, he had his own. However, it sometimes seemed to me that he suffered more from some of his own faults than did others. At times he was inclined to be a bit rough for the moment with those whom he disagreed with. I remember once calling his attention to this habit and he looked at me for a full minute and finally said 'it's my way and I just can't help it'. As we journey through life let us consider how little we have been injured by those who were rough with us when we were wrong or when they thought we were wrong. The issue is then immediately magic and one may deal with it as he can or will or may. It is the oily men in life that one needs to guard against. We shall always remember Senator Sullivan as a man of strong convictions and invincible courage; as one who carried on the highest traditions of an elective official in our state.

In closing my part of this record, there is a vein of sadness in our thoughts as we recall the genial presence, the loyal service, the strong efficiency of these, our dead, whose names we here record. They have left us, but will not be forgotten, for the perfume of their lives like oriental spices will bear its fragrance far down the unseen years. They built themselves into the lives of those with whom they had to do; they have made their contributions to the wealth of human life; they have spoken their message and at the summons of the Almighty have gone beyond, but the result of their energies and their lives remain with us, a living force, a priceless heritage. To their families we can offer nothing more than the poor consolation of a sincere sympathy and commend them to the protecting arms of Him who is Father to the fatherless, and the widow's husband.

These reflections remind us that our own day may be dipping towards the western sun. Let us then do the work of each day so that when the evening shadows lengthen we may go on with courage and with faith, knowing that just beyond are the red shafts of the Eastern dawn.

What is life for the individual but a toilsome march having more or less of length, then a halt, while a broken column closes up the gap caused by the termination of the individual's life span. John Quincy Adams, at an age of more than four score years, was seen one day tottering feebly along the street. A friend accosted him and asked 'How is John Quincy Adams today?' The ex-president replied, 'quite well, I thank you, but the house in which he lives is becoming delapidated; in fact almost uninhabitable; I think John Quincy Adams will have to move out before long; but he himself is well, quite well'. Our associates have moved out and moved on. We trust that they too are 'well, quite well' ".

The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Beltrami, Mr. Bridgeman, who paid the following tribute to the memory of the late Senators George H. Sullivan and C. J. Putzier:

"Mr. President, fellow members of the Senate, and visiting guests:

"It is with a feeling of keen regret that I approach the task of saying a few words in memory of our departed members. I am sure that you will agree with me that it would be futile for me to attempt to add anything to what has already been said in behalf of the late Senator Sullivan.

The Senator from Murray, Mr. Weber, offered the following tribute in memory of the late Senator George H. Sullivan:

To a fearless, yet lovable man.

"As every summer holds within its golden glory the presage of autumn and the falling leaf, so does every human friendship hold within it the token of a winter day when hearts that once spoke a common language are separated by the eternal silence. Each day begins within this shadow that hovers over our hearts. We cannot know when the wind of destiny will blow out some candle, and leave one in darkness where before two walked in light. Mornings that begin with splendour run at last into twilights that fold up the sunset

and the bird-song, and at last the stars. But against the oncoming storm, human affection clings to its precious possession of Friendship, and when the storm has passed, it clings to the deathless memories that speak of olden days and olden joys when hands and hearts were plighted in the enterprises of a common destiny. And as we say goodbye to the comrades who wave to us from a disappearing peak in the mists of Eternity, we remember that the way they went we too shall go—moving ever towards a reunion that brings again the rose and the sunrise to the unending morning. The old Tent-Maker, Omar, dreaming of the friends who had fallen by the wayside, said to his serving-girl in the twilight garden, what we say to our friends each day. This is the last word to speak above the holy memories of our dead Comrade:

“Yon rising moon that looks for us again,  
How oft hereafter shall it wax and wane?  
How oft hereafter, rising, look for us  
Through this same garden,—and for one in vain!  
And when, like her, O Saki, you shall pass  
Among the guests star-scattered on the grass,  
And in your joyous errand reach the spot  
Where I made one,—turn down an empty glass!”

The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Kandyohi, Mr. Lawson, who paid the following tribute to the memory of the late Senators George H. Sullivan and C. J. Putzier:

*“Mr. President, Senators and Visitors:*

I hesitate somewhat to get up and add a few thoughts to what has already so well been said on this solemn occasion. I, too, however, want to add my tribute to the memory of these men who have passed on and with whom we have served in this hail.

Senator Sullivan was an outstanding man. We did not agree always. He was of a different school of political thought than myself, and even after we had differed on the floor at times, he would come

around always if there had been anything at all bitter in the discussion and assure me that there were no personal feelings in the matter. His life should be one of inspiration to those who sat here with him.

....

The President of the Senate then recognized the Senator from Goodhue, Mr. Rockne, who paid the following tribute to the memory of the late Senator George H. Sullivan:

"Ever since the morning this Senate was apprised of the death of Senator George H. Sullivan, I have continually felt a sort of lonesomeness because of his absence on the floor, of this Senate. It was 27 years ago since it became my honor to serve with Senator Sullivan on this floor. We disagreed sometimes, but on the whole we generally had the same thoughts along certain conservative lines. Standing as I do here after he is gone, looking back across the passage and span of 27 years and knowing that there is no one here now except myself who was here in 1911, you will naturally agree with me that while associations of younger men will soon take the place of those who went, yet when I look back over those years I feel, in a way, lonesome because of the associations with Senator Sullivan, and the fact that he was always ready to have an opinion upon every matter that came up here for discussion and consideration. While there were times we disagreed with him, everyone will have to admit, looking back now over the years, that the things that he advocated, and the things that he was successful in having passed, are now the best laws on our statute books, and no one has attempted to repeal many of those laws that he was helpful in having passed.

As I said, when we heard of his untimely death, he was a man of very forceful character, a man who was impetuous and at times very forceful in his expressions against antagonists, but it was his characteristic; just as quick as were his expressions and his actions, he was there with a generous heart to meet the situation, and meet it

well. There never was a time, he didn't care who they were, whether they agreed with him politically or otherwise, that they could not go to the Senator and get such assistance and friendly advice as he had to give, and he never gave wrongful advice. He was never deceitful, and his word was just as good as any bond on nearly every measure that came up here during the entire 27 years. And looking back over all the years, I don't think there are very many who can get up in this Senate and say that he advocated any measure for selfish purpose or selfish motive. Every act that he did, every argument that he promulgated here was done in the interest of his state, of his county, and of the city in which he lived. I shall, of course, be lonely during the time when his memory is near to me, but nevertheless the fact that we have had the benefit of associating with him all these years will always follow me during the remaining years that I may happen to serve here or may be permitted to live."

Mr. Richardson moved that the Secretary of the Senate be, and hereby is, instructed to send enrolled copies of the memorial resolutions and tributes as presented and read, to the wives of the deceased Senators, or to their next of kin.

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Richardson then moved that the memorial resolutions and tributes as presented and read, be spread upon the Journal pages of the Senate.

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Richardson moved that the Senate do now adjourn out of respect to the memory of the late Senators George H. Sullivan and C. J. Putzier.

Which motion prevailed by a rising vote of the Senate. •

## Elections of Senator Sullivan:

1. November 6, 1906. 31st District (Washington County).<sup>1</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....2,358  
Unopposed

2. November 8, 1910. 31st District (Washington County).<sup>2</sup>

George H. Sullivan (Rep).....2,253  
M. L. Hilliard (Prohibition).....1,032

3. November 3, 1914. 43rd District (Washington County).<sup>3</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....2,202  
R. A. Wilkinson.....1,499

Served as Lieutenant Governor, October 28, 1916 – November 2, 1917.

4. November 6, 1918. 43rd District (Washington County).<sup>4</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....1,756  
W. W. Wilcox.....1,799

5. November 7, 1922 . 43rd District (Washington County).<sup>5</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....3,950  
W. W. Wilcox.....3,617

6. November 2, 1926. 43rd District (Washington County).<sup>6</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....4,085  
Ira E. King.....2,974

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<sup>1</sup> 1909 Blue Book, at 497.

<sup>2</sup> 1910 Blue Book, at 494.

<sup>3</sup> 1914 Blue Book, at 548.

<sup>4</sup> 1919 Blue Book, at 675.

<sup>5</sup> 1923 Blue Book, at 458.

<sup>6</sup> 1927 Blue Book, at 354.

7. November 4, 1930. 43rd District (Washington County).<sup>7</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....5,241  
Christopher Easton.....2,087

8. November 6, 1934. 43rd District (Washington County).<sup>8</sup>

George H. Sullivan.....6,148  
J. R. Pfiffner.....3,728

### Credit

The photograph on the first page of this bar memorial is from *Men of Minnesota* (1915).



Posted MLHP: April 1, 2021.

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<sup>7</sup> 1931 Blue Book, at 373.

<sup>8</sup> 1935 Blue Book, at 383.