

DUKE ELLINGTON'S FATHER SUCCUMBS

Many Friends Of Noted Band Leader Attend Funeral Services

By IANTEE DEBB

James Edward Ellington, 58 years old and father of Duke Ellington, died at Sloane Presbyterian Hospital Thursday night, October 28 at 11:20 o'clock.

Mr. Ellington had been ill over a period of six months having suffered 3 severe heart attacks in that time. Though during the last one an oxygen tank and tent were resorted to for several days, the last attack proved fatal.

His son and young daughter, Ruth D., were at his bed side constantly through his last hours of illness; the last two days the Duke failing to leave his father's side at all, but keeping his vigil and hoping for his father's recovery until the end came.

J. E. Ellington was born in Lincolnton, North Carolina, April 15, 1879. When he was a very small boy his family moved to Washington, D. C., where he attended school and grew to manhood. After a romantic and brief courtship at the age of 20 he married Miss Daisy Kennedy then 18, and lived with her until her death, May 1935. Their union was blessed with two children, Edward Kennedy (Duke) and Ruth Dorothea.

When Duke began his phenomenal rise to fame in 1928 he wished to have his family with him (his father at that time being chief butler at the White House having prior to that been a blue printer in the Navy yard of Washington for ten years) so he had his father retire and move with his wife and daughter to a palatial apartment in 381 Edgecombe avenue.

Mr. Ellington never lost his knack of being a perfect host from his years of White House training and contact. Besides his two children, he is survived by a brother, George Ellington and three sisters, Ella Rudasill and Laura Ellington of Washington, D. C., and Louise Stewart of Philadelphia. A beautiful relationship exist-

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