

DETECTIVE PESSAGNO, SHOT BY GUNMEN, DIES

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Succumbs to Wounds Inflicted by Trio—Battaglia, One of Gangsters, Buried.

Guido Pessagno, one of the three detectives of the West Sixty-eighth Street police station who were shot down last Monday afternoon in a pistol battle with three gunmen in a rooming house at 154 West Seventy-eighth Street, died yesterday of his wounds in Roosevelt Hospital.

Pessagno, with Detective Edward Willi and James DeFarari was called to the rooming house by Patrolman John B. Broderick who had trailed a man wanted for murder. The fugitive was Enrico Battaglia, a gangster, who shot and killed Patrolman Jeremiah Bresnan outside the prison ward in Fordham Hospital in 1928.

Battaglia and two companions were waiting for the detectives when they reached the room occupied by the gunmen on the third floor of the house. In the pistol battle that followed Battaglia was shot and killed and the three detectives wounded. Battaglia's companions escaped.

Pessagno was hit five times, Willi was shot through the neck, and De Farari in the right side. Willi and De Farari are both in serious condition.

Battaglia was buried yesterday in Woodlawn Cemetery. Several detectives attended his funeral in the expectation that his two companions of Monday afternoon might appear. The coffin was covered with floral wreaths one of which was marked "From the Boys." No formal service was held. The body was taken to the cemetery from the Plaza Funeral Home at 40 West Fifty-eighth Street.

Pessagno's mother and two brothers were at the hospital when he died. A priest had been called to give him the last rites of the church. The dead detective was 26 years old and joined the police force June 1, 1926. The capture of five men who had shot and killed a Negro in a cigar store hold-up won him his appointment to the Detective Bureau. Later he captured a Negro who had shot and killed Patrolman Dominick Cavaglia in the San Juan Hill section.

DETECTIVE SLAIN IN SIEGE BURIED WITH HIGH HONORS

The body of Detective Guido Passagno, who died from wounds received in the gun siege of a gangster hide-out at 154 W. 78th St., was laid to rest yesterday with highest honors of the Police Department.



The late
Guido Passagno

Thousands of residents of the thickly populated Italian settlement lined the curbs as the funeral cortege moved slowly

from the funeral chapel at 199 Bleecker St. to St. Anthony's Church, Houston and Sullivan Sts.

Marching behind the hearse was a contingent of 300 detectives and 200 uniformed police, headed by Commissioner Edward P. Mulrooney and four Deputy Commissioners.

The department band and glee club and ten automobiles with floral offerings followed. After a requiem high mass burial was at Calvary Cemetery.

Detectives James de Ferrar and Edward Willi are still in the hospital from wounds they received in the gun fight in which Enrico Battaglia, one of the thugs, was shot to death.



Police Commissioner Mulrooney (left) and Chief Inspector O'Brien at the funeral of Detective Guido Passagno yesterday.

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