**William Dudley Biography**

William Dudley’s short life began on August 13, 1896. His parents Carter Dudley and Ellen Pennilton were married in 1881 shortly after Carter’s first wife Ann died. Carter died sometime between 1891 and 1900.

William had two brothers John, born 1882 and Rhen, born 1891. All three of the brothers would work in local tobacco factories. By 1910, John and Rhen had moved out. William and his mother were living at 348 Spring Street. Although William was only 15, he was working as a sorter at Dunlop & Hanratty Tobacco Factory on Front Street.

On Monday, March 6, 1916, William was playing pool in Will Ventress’ Pool Room on Franklin Street when he got into an altercation with Marcus Carneal. The altercation got heated enough that William threw a pool ball at Marcus. This enraged Marcus to the point that he attacked William with a knife. William received two wounds. One of the knife cuts severed one of his jugular veins, and the other stab wound was just under his left arm possibly puncturing his chest cavity.

William was given immediate medical attention and was carried to his home where he died at midnight on Tuesday, March 7, 1916. Marcus Carneal was arrested on March 6, and held on a charge of murder. Currently, the details of his trial are not known. William Dudley was buried in Mt. Olive Cemetery on March 9, 1916. He was twenty years old.

**Bibliography**

*Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle Newspaper* (March 7, 1916 and March 8,1916)

Montgomery County, Tennessee Census (1900, 1910)