



JOHN M. EVANS

- **Lawyer, Police Judge, County Attorney, Mayor**
- **Born.** January 7, 1863 in Sedalia, Missouri.
- **Married.** Helena Hastings on June 11, 1889. She was born in California. They had two children.
- **Died.** March 12, 1946 in Washington, DC.
- **1864.** John's family arrived in Virginia City, Montana. They made the trip overland by oxen team. John's father joined the mining quest. When that proved unsuccessful, he moved the Evans family to Deer Lodge, Montana to return to farming and raising cattle.
- **Education.** John attended public schools in Deer Lodge, Montana. Upon graduation, he obtained appointment to West Point. He remained there for only one term. That seemed sufficient length of time to convince him that the life of the army officer would never be to his liking.
- **1887.** John graduated from the Law Department of the University of Missouri and was admitted to the Bar.
- John returned home to Montana and practiced law in Butte in the office of Judge De Witt.
- **1888.** John had an opportunity to open his own law practice in Missoula, Montana.
- **1889-1894.** John was elected Police Judge. He very much enjoyed this position but new opportunities called.
- **1894.** President Cleveland asked John to serve as the Registrar of Deeds in the United States Land Office. At the close of the administration he resumed his law practice.
- **1905.** John Evans was the founder of a local fraternity at Montana State University, Gamma Phi Chapter of Sigma Nu.
- **1911.** Elected as Missoula's 21st Mayor. John was the overwhelming popular choice amongst eight candidates for the newly formed 'commission' form of local government.
- **1912-1920.** John was elected as Montana's United States Congressman.
- **Board of Education.** John served Montana as Vice-President of the State Board of Education for ten years.
- **1922-1933.** John returned to Congress until his retirement.



Located in Grave 8. Lot 18. Block 27



1911-South 3rd St was the first city street to be paved with bricks followed by Higgins Ave. in 1912. The bricks remained until 1966. Photo courtesy of The Missoulian.