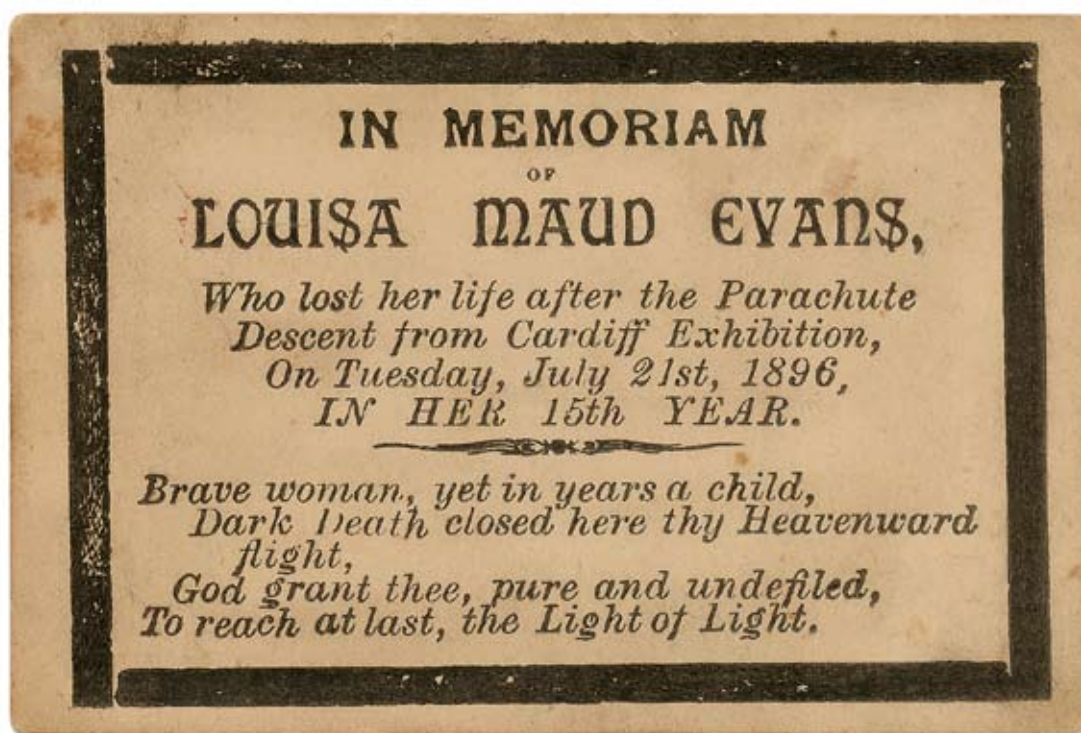


Louisa Maud Evans

[Memorial card]: In Memoriam of Louisa Maud Evans, Who lost her life after the Parachute Descent from Cardiff Exhibition, On Tuesday, July 21st, 1896 in her 15th Year

[Cardiff?: no publisher] 1896



Small card. 4½" x 3". Black border, printed in a variety of typefaces. A little spotting or foxing, else near fine. Drymounted (and easily removable) on card. Evidence of a remarkable event and a brave young woman. Evans (actually 14 years old at the time), known as "Balloon Girl", leapt from a balloon, wearing a homemade sailor suit, intending to land triumphantly on the outskirts of Cardiff before a crowd of over 100,000. When the balloon unexpectedly was dragged higher (between 5000-6000 feet), she was forced to release herself over the Bristol Channel. Her heavy parachute, made of cloth and wood, apparently dragged her beneath the water where she drowned. Her body was recovered three days later. Despite the publicity that the event generated, this card appears unrecorded. [BTC#400573]