

# Civic leader Alex Terzian dies

By STEVE BARNABY

Alex Terzian, one of Farmington Hills' most prominent conservative leaders, died Jan. 13. He was 38 years old.

Although never elected to public office, he often was mentioned as a possible candidate for city council. After the conservative sweep in the 1979 council election, he was appointed to the city's Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

A lawyer, he was best known for his opposition to subsidized low-income and senior citizen housing, and construction of high-rise structures in the suburbs.

An avid city council watcher, he acted as a behind-the-scenes advisor to

many conservative colleagues on the city's legislative body.

Phone calls poured into the Farmington Observer office Wednesday morning from residents and public officials who expressed shock and paid tribute to the community activist.

"He made a difference in his own quiet way," said Mayor Donn Wolf. "In the last three years the city has been better off because of Alex Terzian. I know I benefited because of discussions I had with him."

Former mayor and fellow EDC board member Robert McConnell also paid tribute.

"He was a very talented young man," said McConnell. "He has been

one of the dependable, conscientious members of the board. He always did his homework and worked for the best interest of the city.

"He will be hard to replace."

Terzian was on his way to an EDC meeting, coming from work, when he suffered a heart attack.

He will lie in state from 7-9 p.m. on Friday at St. John's Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. A prayer service will be at 7 p.m. at the church.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. on Saturday at St. John's. He will be buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit.

Survivors are: his wife, Paula; sons, David and Dennis; mother, Rachel; and brothers, Harry and George.



ALEX TERZIAN

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