## **Eugene Power** pioneered uses of microfilm

Eugene B. Power died Dec. 6 at home in Ann Arbor after a long illness. He was born in 1905 in Traverse City. Mr. Power's three careers — in

Mr. Power's three careers — in business, in public service and in pullanthropy — spanned more than 60 years and stretched the bounds of each field to which he turned his attention.

After earning his degrees from the University of Michigan — a B.A. in 1932 and M.B.A. in 1930 — Mr. Power joined Edwards Brothers Inc., an Ann Arber publishing firm, where he developed his interest in microllim as a publications medium.

lishing firm, where he developed his interest in mlerofilm as a publications medium. He founded his own company, University Microfilms Inc., in 1938, and through it virtually invented the data base publishing industry. He pioneered the application of microfilm to the storage and reproduction of scholarly materials.

By marrying microfilm to xeregraphy, he solved the historic out of print book problem. By publishing dissertations in microfilm form he obth slashed the cost of scholarly publishing and radically increased the availability of cutting edge research. When he merged his company with the Xerox Corp. in 1962, it was the world leader in its field.

Mr. Power served his country in World War II by directing large-scale microfilming of rare books and materials in British libraries

to save them from bombing and by organizing filming and trans-mission of intelligence material from the Continent to the United

from the Continent to the United States.

He was elected a Regent of the University of Michigan in 1955 and re-elected in 1963. His service with the National Association of College Governing Boards led to his election as president in 1970. He served on countless boards and committees, culminating with his selection by President Lyndon Johnson as a member of the board of the National Foundation for the Arts.

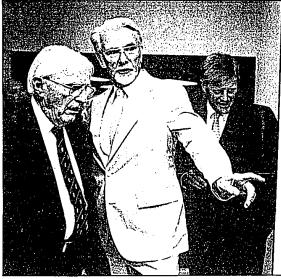
He was made in 1977 an honorary Knight of the British Empire.

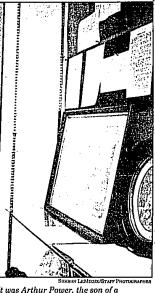
Mr. Power established the Power Foundation in 1967 to be the vehicle for his many philanthropies, including donation of the Power Center for the Performing Arts to the University of Michigan. The foundation also sponsors the Power Exchange Scholarships between the U-M and Cambridge University in Great Britain. The foundation also supports numerous projects in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County and at the university.

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The reach, and rapidity of his invention was breathtaking and the range of his interests was prodigious. Everything he touched—his profession, his university, his community, and his family—was changed and improved.

Mr. Power was preceded in





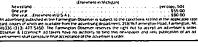
Local history: The Power name holds special significance in Farmington. It was Arthur Power, the son of a Revolutionary War officer who founded Farmington in 1824. Eugene Power (left) was the great-great-great grandson of Arthur Power. Eugene Power and his son, Philip, (right) along with Robert Power, a cousin, viewed this family exhibit in 1991 in the Farmington Hills Historical Commission display case in Farmington Hills City

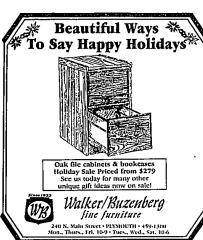
death by his wife, Sadye. He is survived by his son, Philip, owner of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers; his daughter-in-law, Kathleen, and his grandsons, Nathan and Scott.

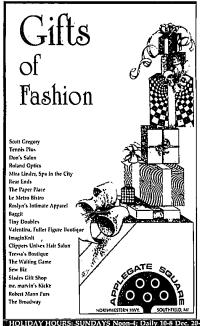
A memorial service will be held in early January. The family re-quests no flowers. Memorial con-tributions may be made to the Clements Library at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.



# Farmington Observer









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