Resident led ice cream companies, civic groups

75.
Mr. Sharpe, a 40-year Farmington-area resident, served as chief executive officer of Livonia's Wilson Dairy and Seattle-based dairy food company, Arden Mayfait, in the 1980s.
He was executive vice president in charge of Borman's Wesley Quaker Maid Ice Cream division

from the mid-1960s through the mid-70s.

Born in Laurel, Miss., in 1920, Mr. Sharpe and his mother were impoverished when his father died during the early years of the Depression. As a young boy then, he took odd jobs to help his widowed mother, who earned about a dollar a day taking in semantress work from neighbors.

An outstanding hish achool athlete as a football halfback and track-and-field star, he was recruited by Georgia Tech, but left school before he ever played to join the service at the outset of World War III.

Mr. Sharpe served as an aide to

Mr. Sharpe served as an side to Gen. George S. Patton in North Africa and Europe before request-ing transfer to combat duty where

he carned seven battle stars and a Purple Heart. He was one of the first para-troopers to be dropped behind en-emy lines in the Invasion of Nor-mandy in 1944, and was in the first contingent of U.S. troops that liberated concentration camp orisoners at Dachau in acuthern

that liberated concentration camp prisoners at Dachau in southern Germany in 1945.
"He took great pride in the fact that he was part of Patton's 3rd Army and the push across Eu-rope," said a son, Richard Sharpe of Farmington Hills. "He had been a clerk, but transferred to combat duty. He said, 'I didn't come all this way to push paper across a desk.'"

Four months after the Nazis formally surrendered, the Allies staged their own version of the

Olympics, which had been sus-pended during the war, in Sep-tember 1945 at Bad Tolz, Germa-

It pitted the best athletes from the U.S., French and British troops. Mr. Sharpe took eight track-and-field medals, including gold medals in the high jump and 100 and 400-yard dashes.

During the first two decades of his business career, Mr. Sharpe rose to general manager of Kraft Foods' Sealtest Division in Michlgan. In the late 1970s, he served as a special consultant to Baskin-Robbins, turning around the foundering operations of the British company's U.S. Ice cream plants.

plants. Mr. Sharpe devoted the last

several years of his career through the early 1990s to establishing back pain clinics throughout the United States as chairman and CEO of the McKenzie Institute of New Zealand.

New Zealand.

Active in civic and local food industry affairs throughout his career, Mr. Sharpe was vice chairman of the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce and president-elect of the Rotary Club of Detroit in the late 1970s when he was struck by Guillain-Barre syndrome, an extremely rare nervous system disease that paralyzed him for a year and a half. He made an almost complete recovery.

Mr. Sharpe also was president of the Chamber's Food Industry

Council and a director of the Metro Boys Club and the Michlgan Dalry Foods Association. He was a member of the Moslem Shrine and for 31 years the Rotary Club of Detroit.

He met his wife, the former Florence Sherman, in Chicago before the war. They were married in 1947.

Sharpe is survived by his wife; son, Richard; daughters, Janet Sharpe and Pamela Smith and five grandchildren.

Arrangements were made at Theyer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. A funeral Mass was May 12 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Burial was in Lake Geneva, Wis., in a church cemetery on a farm once owned by his in-laws.

OBITUARIES

American Legion, auxiliary volunteers plan Poppy Days

The American Legion and auxiliary volunteers will distribute the familiar red, handcrafted pop-pies honoring America's war dead on May 18-20, designated as Pop-

py Days.

These days are planned to coincide with Memorial Day, the annual event to pay tribute to those veterans who have died in the last

To years.

It also honors the millions of Americans who have willingly

served their country in seven dec-

adea.

Each nine-piece poppy is made by veterans for veterans in auxiliary-sponsored Poppy Shops that supplement physical and psychological therapy needed by hospitalized and disabled veterans.

The auxiliary provides the ma-terials and the volunteers. The veteran makes the poppy and is paid a small amount for each flower. For some, it is their only

No matter what the cost maintaining and supplying the poppy shops, the memorial poppy is never sold, but given in exchange for a contribution.

change for a contribution.

The poppy program has been part of auxiliary programming for more than 70 years. It has been estimated that approximately 25 million Americans were the popy to honor America's war dead and all vendors contribute more than \$2 million for rehabilitation and welfare programs.

RICHARD D. CERVANTEZ
Mr. Cervantez, 82, died of cancer
May 9 in Troy.
Born in Mexico, he resided in
Titusville, Fla. Mr. Cervantez was
e chef for 15 years at Bloomfield
Hills Country Club. He also
worked for several Detroit restaurants including Cliff Bells and
Little Harry's.
He was married to Bestrice
(Sommers) Cervantez, who died
in 1989.
Survivors include daughters,
Dians-lakublak of Troy and Tereters. Thompson of Farmington
Hills, six grandchildren and seven
great-grandchildren.
The funeral service was May 11
at A.J. Desmond & Some Funeral
Home, Troy, Burial was in Troy's
White Chapel Cemetery, Memorialt ributes may be made to Hospice of Southeast Michigan or the
Michigan Cancer Foundation. Michigan Cancer Foundation.

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EXECUTIVE PRINTING JOHN CHARLES DAVISON Mr. Davison, 83, died of renal failure May 10 at Whitehall Con-valescent Home in Novi. Mr. Dav-ison had lived in Fermington for

ison had lived in Farmington for 25 years. He was an auditor for Detroit Edison for 28 years and retired in 1962. He graduated from Visita-tion High School and University of Detroit.

Ho was a former member of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. He was preceded in death by his wife Clara.

Survivors include one son, John R. of South Lyon, and two grandchildren.

A graveside service was May 12 at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorials can be made to Kenny Rehab, 2840 Crooks Road, Suite 100, Rochester Hills 48309.



Talk Back

TURH SPORTS INTO YEAR-ROUND FUN

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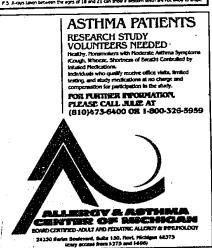
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