

OBITUARIES

ERNEST W. SHARPE

Ernest W. Sharpe, a prominent Detroit civic leader who served as the top executive of many of Detroit's major milk and ice cream companies during a five-decade career, died of a heart attack May 9 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Ypsilanti. He was 75.

Sharpe served as chief executive officer of Livonia's Wilson Dairy and Seattle-based dairy food company, Arden Mayfair, in the 1980s and was executive vice-president in charge of Borman's Wesley Quaker Maid Ice Cream division from the mid 1960s through the mid-70s.

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

The 40-year resident of Farmington and Farmington Hills 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 McKensie Institute of New Zealand.

Extremely active in civic and local food industry affairs throughout his career, 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.

Sharpe also was president of the Chamber's Food Industry Council and a director of the Metro Boys Club and the Michigan Dairy Foods Association. He was a member of the Moslem Shrine and for 31 years the Rotary Club of Detroit.

Born in Laurel, Miss. in 1920, 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 seamstress work from neighbors. An outstanding high school athlete as a football halfback and track-and-field star, he was recruited by Georgia Tech, but left school before he ever played in order to join the service at the outset of World War II.

Sharpe served as an aide to General George S. Patton in North Africa and Europe before requesting transfer to combat duty where he earned seven battle stars and a Purple Heart. He was one of the first paratroopers to be dropped behind enemy lines in the invasion of Normandy in 1944, and was in the first contingent of U.S. troops that liberated concentration camp prisoners at Dachau in southern Germany in 1945.

Four months after the Nazis

formally surrendered, the Allies staged their own version of the Olympics which had been suspended during the war, in Sept. 1945 at Bad Tölz, Germany. It pitted the best athletes from the U.S., French and British troops. Sharpe took eight track-and-field medals, including gold medals in the high jump and 100- and 400-yard dashes.

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 Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington Hills. The funeral mass was May 12 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Burial was in Lake Geneva, Wis., in church cemetery on a farm once owned by his in-laws.

ANTHONY A. KOLODZIEJCZAK

Mr. Kolodziejczak, 73, died May 12 in St. Mary Hospital.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Kolodziejczak was a resident of Farmington Hills for 41 years. He formerly lived in Detroit and Plymouth.

He was a truck driver for 20 years for Packerson Fuel Co. and before that for the city of Farmington Water Department from 1962 to 1974.

He was a member of the Teamsters, a former member of the Farmington Elks, and was a FocusHOPE volunteer.

Survivors include sons Anthony (Sharon) of Redford, Thomas (Donna) of Howell, Patrick (Allison) of Livonia and Michael (Cherie) of Livonia; daughters Ramona (George) Barnum of Livonia and Betty (Dennis) Grim of Westerville. Also, he is survived by three brothers, two sisters, 19 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at St. Alexander's Catholic Church in Farmington Hills with the Rev. James B. Wright officiating. Arrangements were made by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. Burial was in Glen Eden, Livonia. Memorials may be made to the family.

PHILIP MITCHELL VAN CAMP

Mr. Van Camp, 78, died May 16 in Botsford Hospital.

Born in Sioux City, Iowa, Mr. Van Camp was a Farmington Hills resident for more than 40 years. He did tool salvage/auto-motive work.

Survivors include wife Dorothy, to whom he was married for almost 55 years; six sons, Kenneth L. of Fenton, Harlan M. of Farmington Hills, Richard A. of Farmington Hills, Dallas C. of Fenton, Gregory P. of Farmington Hills and Geoffrey P. of Farmington Hills; two daughters, Pamela B. Ellison of Canton and Dorothy P. Clark of Redford. He is also survived by sisters Lucille Naimish and Helen Painter, 17 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held by the Salvation Army in Farmington Hills, with Capt. Homer Smith officiating. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery, Farmington.

Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army, 27500 Shilawassee, Farmington Hills 48338.

USO party marks anniversary

Attention all Farmington-area folks interested in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. Mark Friday, May 19, on the calendar.

A USO-type party, sponsored by the WWII Commemorative

Committee to Honor Veterans, will be held 5:30-9 p.m. May 19 at the Farmington Hills Activists Center (formerly the Mercy Center), 26600 11 Mile.

The \$10 per person charge will include live entertainment and

hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Limited space will be available for displaying war memorabilia.

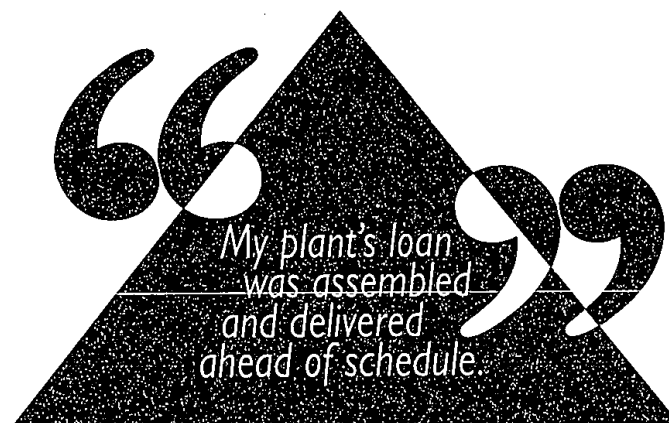
For more information, call "Uncle Jack" Curd at 478-4694.

Springbrook sub sets sale dates

Furniture and baby clothes will be among the many items for sale in the Springbrook subdivision

garage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 20. The subdivision is bounded by 10 Mile, 11 Mile,

Middlebelt and Orchard Lake roads.



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