

George W. Trapp, Redford business founder, dies at age 97

George W. Trapp, longtime Redford Township resident and businessman, died early Wednesday morning in his sleep.

Trapp, 97, was founder and president of the George W. Trapp Company, a manufacturer of doors and windows in Redford Township.

A memorial service is set for 11 a.m. Friday, March 21, in Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road, (east of Newburgh) Livonia. The family requests memorials to Habitat for Humanity or the Salvation Army.

Trapp was born Feb. 22, 1906 in New Jersey and raised in Philadelphia and Florida before moving to Michigan at age 17 to get a job in the automobile factories.

He first found a job screening windows in a screen shop in Detroit. When he was laid off during the Depression, he decided to start his own business.

In 1930 he started Great Lakes Screen Co. on Livernois in Detroit, selling screened porch enclosures and wood storm windows. The retail business was in the front of the

shop and he lived with his wife and son in the back. To this day the factory in Redford is still called "the shop" by family members.

In 1943, he purchased the Redford Township storm window manufacturing plant from one of his suppliers and began a career in manufacturing and wholesale.

Trapp was one of three charter members of the Redford Chamber of Commerce.

Family members remember his quick wit and dedication to the business. "He always believed in a strong work ethic,

and he stayed active in his business right up to a week before his death, arriving for work every morning," said grandson, Bill Trapp of Farmington Hills.

In an interview in April 1996, shortly after his 90th birthday, Trapp spoke proudly of the business he founded and which has grown and prospered under his leadership and that of his son, Dick, and grandchildren, Bill and Darby.

Although competition is fierce, Trapp at that time attributed his success to good luck and lots of hard work.

"Our business has never

stopped growing because of the demand and the fact we've made a good name for ourselves," Trapp told an Observer reporter.

"People in business for themselves don't want to leave it for any length of time. I will work as long as I can. I'll keep plugging away," he said in 1996.

Trapp loved to travel with his wife, Inez, and spent many winters in Florida before her death in 1987. When he was not working, Trapp was an avid reader of biographies and history.

Trapp is survived by his son

and daughter-in-law, Dick and Rosemary Trapp of Orchard Lake; grandchildren, Bill (Caroline) of Farmington Hills, Darby (Eland) of Redford Township; Rusty (Sally Jo) of Grand Rapids and Andrew (Amy) of Mill Valley, Calif., and six great-grandchildren, Logan, LeeAnn, Lauren, Baxter, Davis and Lucy. He is also survived by his brother, Ed of Providence, R.I.

Helen Hagemann

Services for Helen Lucille Hagemann, 80, of Farmington Hills were Monday, March 10 from Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with the Rev. Carol Johns officiating and burial following at Oakland Hills Cemetery in Novi.

Mrs. Hagemann was born June 17, 1922 and died March 7 at her home. She was a homemaker, described by family as an "all around good mother" and a fan of sports, especially enjoying Tiger baseball, Detroit Red Wings and the Detroit Pistons. She also enjoyed dancing, spending time with family and loved the University of Michigan. She graduated from Clawson High School, attended business school and worked for General Motors.

Survivors include husband of 60 years, Robert; children Robert Jr. of Flint, Sandee (David) Landsburg of Tucson, Ariz., Carolyn (Roderick) McCreary of Ann Arbor and Donna Hagemann of Oxford, N.C. and four grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the National Stroke Association, 9707 Easter Lane, Englewood, CO 80112.

Robert McArthur

Services for Robert Walter McArthur, 65, of Farmington Hills were Thursday, March 20 from Thayer-Rock Funeral Home with the Rev. Brian Tweedie officiating.

Mr. McArthur was born Nov. 29, 1937 in Detroit and died March 16 at his home. He worked for Detroit Riverview Hospital (St. John's) as corporate director of pharmacy and previously worked for Farmer Jack Pharmacy. He graduated from Cass Technical High School and from Wayne State University. He belonged to the Farmington Elks Lodge 1986, loved photography, woodworking and Alpetta.

Survivors include wife of 22 years, Sandra; children Cheryl Plasko of Dearborn, Roberta (Glenn) Kowal of Southgate, Brenda (Ted) Gogol of Maryland and Kathy (Richard) Nye of Illinois and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Michigan Elks Association's major projects commission.

Harry Anderson

Services for Harry D. Anderson, 78, of Farmington Hills were Tuesday, March 18 from Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home with the Revs. Ron Browne and Rick Hartman officiating and burial following at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

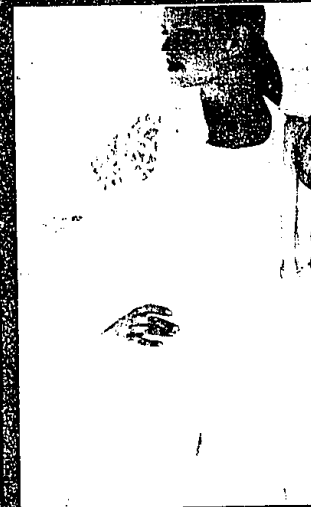
Mr. Anderson was born Dec. 26, 1924 in Pitsclairn, Pa. and died March 15 in Houston, Texas. He was a steel industry executive.

Survivors include his children, Harry Jr. (Martha) Anderson, Jane (Gary) Whitney, Robert (Ladlie) Anderson, Kristin (Walter) DeMattia and Daniel (Doris) Anderson; brother Jack Anderson and 10 grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the MD Anderson Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 29715, Houston, TX 77297.



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