

Matthew Lawrence Dempsey, prominent local business man

Former City Councillor Matthew Lawrence Dempsey, 83, of 52 First St., a prominent North Adams business man and president of Martin's Shoe Store Inc., in the Concourse at 85 Main St., died late yesterday morning at the North Adams Regional Hospital where he was admitted Tuesday.

Mr. Dempsey, a veteran of World War I, was born in North Adams Nov. 4, 1890, a son of the late Matthew and Margaret (Mulcare) Dempsey. He attended local schools and was graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1907.

He was employed by Martin's Shoe Store while a student in high school, then became a full time clerk, and in 1939, he and Patrick J. Montague of Northampton purchased the business. The Dempsey family became sole owners in 1958.

He served two years overseas during World War I as a sergeant with the 327th M.T.C. in France.

Mr. Dempsey first was elected to the

first Plan D. City Council in 1951 and was reelected in 1953 and 1955. He was defeated in his fourth bid for election in 1957.

He served as a director of the Chamber of Commerce and was a past president of its retail division.

Mr. Dempsey was a communicant of St. Francis Church. He was an honorary trustee of the North Adams Hoosac Savings Bank, a Life Member of the Kiwanis Club, and a member of the Frank R. Stiles Post, American Legion. He formerly was a member of the North Adams Elks Lodge and the North Adams Council, Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife, the former Frances Edith Melver, R.N., of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, whom he married Nov. 24, 1927; one son, John M. L. Dempsey of Adams, who is associated in business with his father; two daughters, Margaret Maureen Hackett of Schectady, N.Y., and Mary Carolyn Dempsey of Brookline; six grandchildren; and three nieces.

Funeral services will be at 9 a.m., Monday, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial in St. Francis Church. Burial will be in the family lot in Southview Cemetery.

Calling hours at the Flynn & Dagnoli-Montagna Home for Funerals are from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m., tomorrow.

In lieu of flowers, friends who wish may make donations in his memory to the charity of the donor's choice.

THE TRANSCRIPT

Dial 663-3741

Published daily except Sunday and holidays from The Transcript Building, American Legion Drive, North Adams, Mass., 01247. Second class postage, paid at North Adams, Mass. Fifteen cents a copy. Mail rate \$3.75 a month.

Obituary for Matthew Lawrence Dempsey (Aged 83)



Clipped By:

cmchwmp

Tue, Oct 26, 2021