

District Attorney Dies Suddenly

Fulton county's district attorney died suddenly at his home in McConnellsburg on Christmas Eve, just a day after he returned home from a long hospitalization at the Chambersburg Hospital as the result of injuries received in an automobile accident.

The victim of the coronary occlusion, John W. Mentzer, 65, died suddenly at about 11:30 o'clock Christmas Eve in the living room of his home where he and other members of his family had just finished opening their Christmas gifts.

Mr. Mentzer had returned to his home here on Tuesday from the Chambersburg Hospital after having been a patient there since September 17 when he sustained a broken right leg, a broken right arm and a fractured right knee in an automobile accident north of McConnellsburg.

Fatally stricken while seated in the Mentzer living room, he slumped over on a davenport in the presence of his wife and their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Mentzer, Jr., of Hvattsville, Md.

Dr. Russell C. McLucas, McConnellsburg physician, was summoned at once, and he pronounced Mr. Mentzer dead when he arrived.

A lawyer in McConnellsburg since 1931, Mr. Mentzer was serving his fifth four-year term as district attorney of Fulton county. He was elected to his present term in 1955. He also was serving as solicitor for the Fulton county commissioners.

He was a graduate of the McConnellsburg High School, the University of Maryland and the University of Maryland Law School, and practiced law in Baltimore before returning to Fulton county in 1931.

97 Dec 1958

Age 65-0-9

Mentzer, John W.

97-4-4

During World War I, Mr. Mentzer served for two years as a first lieutenant in the Army Air Force.

From 1944 to 1955, he was a member of the law bureau of the Public Utilities Commission in Harrisburg.

Prominent in Lions activities, Mr. Mentzer was a past international director of Lions International and a past district governor of District 14-C. He was a charter member of the McConnellsburg Lions Club.

Mr. Mentzer was a past commander of the Captain James McKibbin Post, American Legion, and a past deputy district commander of the American Legion.

At the time of his death, he was serving on the executive council of the Washington Area Boy Scout organization.

Mr. Mentzer was a member of the Presbyterian Church of McConnellsburg and had been a teacher of the Men's Bible Class for many years.

A native of Webster Mills, he was born on December 15, 1893, a son of the late Cyrus and Asenath Snyder Mentzer. He was united in marriage with Marguerite Paul on May 28, 1924, in Baltimore.

Surviving are his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Jean Les Strang of Ann Arbor, Mich., and Mrs. Nancy Evans of Lakewood, N. J.; a son, John W. Mentzer, Jr., of Hyattsville, Md.; three grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Catherine Shimer of McConnellsburg, and two brothers, Ted Mentzer of Needmore and Percy Mentzer of New Hope, N. J.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 o'clock on Saturday afternoon from the Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. D. I. Hoover in charge. Burial was made in the Union Cemetery.

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