

Irving I. Fain, 83; businessman, Jewish community leader

PROVIDENCE — Irving I. Fain, 83, of 30 Blackstone Blvd., long a leader in the state's business and Jewish communities, died yesterday morning at Miriam Hospital. He was the husband of Miriam (Grossman) Fain.



A son of the late Barnet and Ida Fain, he was a lifelong resident of the city, and a principal in Fain's, Inc., the first floor-covering specialty store in New England, founded by his parents in 1884.

Fain's was recognized by the industry in July in Atlanta, Ga., when it received the Award for Merchandising Achievement from *Flooring Magazine*, the first time a New England firm was so recognized.

He was a former owner of E. A. Adams & Son, Inc. of Pawtucket, one of the nation's oldest and largest jewelry findings manufacturers.

Mr. Fain's chief interest for years was his work with the Jewish Home for the Aged. A vice president and trustee, he was chairman of the admissions committee for more than 35 years, giving it his daily attention until recently. The new library at the home was dedicated in his honor this year.

Mr. Fain also was one of a small group initially involved in such projects as the establishment of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, and the relocation of Miriam Hospital from Parade Street to Summit Avenue. In the late 1930s, he was one of the purchasers of the Ledge-mont Country Club, then in West Warwick. The acquisition led to the club's relocation to Seekonk, Mass.

An administrator of the Camp Jori Scholarship Fund, he was a member of the Jewish Family & Children's Service board, and of the Hebrew Free Loan Association.

He was a vice president of Temple Emanu-El, and chairman of the High Holiday Committee for many years.

Besides his widow he leaves a son, Barnet Fain of Barrington; a daughter, Judith L. Kanter of Moraga, Calif.; a brother, Archie Fain of Providence; four sisters, Jeanette Kaufman of Dallas, Tex., Leila Rosen and Natalie Emers, both of Providence and Bertha Feingold of Westboro, Mass.; and four grandchildren.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 2 p.m. in Temple Emanu-El, Morris Avenue. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

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