GERSTENBLATT, SIDNEY

PJB 7-3-04

Providence 7-3

SIDNEY GERSTENBLATT, 82, of York, Maine, formerly of Providence and Warwick, a former social worker, business owner and musician, died Wednesday at York (Maine) Hospital.

He was the husband of Louise (Berg) Gerstenblatt. They had been married for 51 years. Born in Providence, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Gerstenblatt, he had lived in Providence and Warwick before moving to Maine.

Mr. Gerstenblatt had been the director of Camp Community Action many years ago. He later worked in the Vermont state Office of Economic Opportunity, and was instrumental in the formation of Vermont Dental Care, providing dental care to low-income children in that state.

He later established Grandma's Sinful Sweets, the family business in Vermont, California, and Dover, N.H., developing and marketing snacks and confections to college bookstores throughout the country.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, and a graduate of Goddard College, Plainfield, Vt.

A musician and singer, he had performed under the stage name Sid Gary, and played and sung in many venues, including the Apollo Theater, in Harlem, N.Y.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Jeffrey Gerstenblatt of Dover; a daughter, Paula Gerstenblatt of Pinole, Calif.; two brothers, Willy Gerstenblatt in New York and Victor Gerstenblatt in Florida; and four grandchildren. He was the father of the late Faith Gerstenblatt, and brother of the late James Gerstenblatt.

The funeral will be private.