HANDWERGER
Louis

PROV. SJ 4/7/2002

Louis Handwerger, 85; lawyer, industrialist and civic leader

SARASOTA, Fla. — Louis Handwerger, 85, of Forest Hills Circle, a retired attorney, industrialist and longtime civic leader, died Thursday of natural causes at Kindred Hospital, St. Petersburg.

He was the husband of Shirley (Reiter) Handwerger. They had been married for 60 years. Born in the Bronx, N.Y., a son of the late Charles and Stella (Musoff) Handwerger, he had lived in Providence from 1951 to 1999 before he moved to Sarasota.

Mr. Handwerger began his law practice as a "storefront lawyer" in New York until he was called to war. An Army veteran of World War II, he served in Europe and attained the rank of captain.

After the war, he worked out of an office on the Champs-Elysees in Paris, France, where he compiled a 13-volume history of the U.S. Transportation Corps, which remains in the Library of Congress.

In 1951, he moved to Rhode Island and worked in his father-in-law's business, the former Rau Fastener Co. While he was president, the company grew into a major manufacturer in Providence and internationally, with satellite factories in Brussels, Belgium and Montreal, Quebec, and sales offices in more than 40 countries.

Mr. Handwerger was instrumental in establishing scholarship programs for employees and their children. He also brought Rau Fastener into the forefront of Providence's civically involved companies.

At the age of 78, Mr. Handwerger ended his career with Rau Fastener and returned to practicing law before retiring and moving to Florida in 1999.

Mr. Handwerger was a past president of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island. He was instrumental in raising funds for Israel and contributed to several organizations nationally and internationally, in particular the Groden Center, Providence.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Robert Michael Handwerger of Cranston and Alan Handwerger of Sarasota; a sister, Jeanne Pomerance of Hallendale, Fla.; and six grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Harry, Aaron and Ira Handwerger.

The funeral will be held today at 11 a.m. in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

PJ 4-6-2002

HANDWERGER, Louis

April 4, 2002. Residence: Sarasota, FL. Beloved Husband of Shirley (Reiter) Handwerger. Devoted Father of Robert Michael Handwerger, Cranston; Alan Handwerger, Sarasota. Loving Brother of Jeanne Pomerance, Hallendale, FL. Adored Grandfather of Neil, Eric, Kathryn, Rachel, Ben and Alex. Funeral Services Sunday at 11:00 AM at SUGARMAN-SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 458 Hope St., Providence. In lieu of flowers, Contributions may be made to: The Groden Center, 86 Mt. Hope Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Shiva will be private.