HASSENFELD, Harold

OBITUARIES

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Harold Hassenfeld, former president of Hasbro predecessor

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Harold Irwin Hassenfeld, a former top executive with the company that became Hasbro Inc., died Friday after a long illness. He was 84.

A Providence native, he attended Hope High School and Brown University before joining the Army. After his discharge, he returned to Providence to become president and chairman of the board of Hassenfeld Brothers Inc., which is now Hasbro.

Hassenfeld later moved to Nashville to lead the Empire Pencil Co., and continued as chairman of the board of the Empire/Barol Corp. before retiring in 1988.

He developed the Epcon process of making wood-like pencils using resins, a process that changed the writing industry and helped preserve trees.

Hassenfeld, who lived in Palm Beach, Fla., and Nashville, is survived by a wife, two daughters and one son. His nephew, Alan Hassenfeld, is the current chief executive officer of Pawtucket-based Hasbro.

The company released a one-sentence statement yesterday saying Hasbro was "very saddened" by Harold Hassenfeld's death.

A memorial service will be held in Nashville. No date has been set.