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Lawrence Hopfenberg, importer of jewelry, Jewish leader, at 56

PROVIDENCE — Lawrence Hopfenberg, 56, of 151 Cole Ave., president of the Hopfenberg Connection, a jewelry importing firm, died Saturday at Rhode Island Hospital after a three-day illness. He was the husband of Lois (Koritz) Hopfenberg.

Born in New York City, a son of Grace (Hausner) Hopfenberg, and the late Irving J. Hopfenberg, he lived in Providence most of his life.

Mr. Hopfenberg was a graduate of Brown University. He was a World War II Coast Guard veteran, and during the Korean War he was in the Army counterintelligence corps, stationed in the Far East.

He was a past president of Plantations Lodge, B'nai B'rith, a past president of the Central New England Council of B'nai B'rith, a former member of the board of governors of B'nai B'rith, District 1, a past chairman of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Committee for Brown University and the University of Rhode Island, and acting chairman of the Human Relations Commission of the City of Providence from 1974 to 1977. He was a lay member of the Rhode Island State Legislative Commission to study criminal law procedures, a member of Congregation Mishkan Tefilah, the Providence Hebrew Free Loan and the Ledgemont Country Club.

Besides his wife and mother he leaves a son, David H. Hopfenberg of Providence; a daughter, Mrs. Roberta L. Singerman of Fort Lee, N.J., and a brother, Alan Hopfenberg of Providence.

A funeral service was to be held this morning in Mt. Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St.

HOPFENBERG, LAWRENCE