OBITUARY

PINKERSON, HARRY

The Evening Bulletin, Friday, April 4, 1975

obituaries

Harry Pinkerson, 71; 1st WLKW Owner

NEW YORK — Harry Pinkerson, 71, founder of a downtown Providence women's apparel store and first owner of radio station WLKW, died today in a Manhattan hospital.

Mr. Pinkerson was active in Providence city affairs and served for 18 years on the City Plan Commission. He was dubbed "Mr. Parking" after devising the downtown merchant's parking validation plan and was an active traffic safety proponent on state and local commissions.

He founded the Pinkerson Co. in the 1930s and operated for 33 years until he sold the Westminster Mall store in 1966. It has since closed.

With the late Mowry Lowe, well known in the Rhode Island radio industry, he founded Radio Rhode Island which began operating as WLKW in 1961.

Mr. Pinkerson severed his Rhode Island business connections in the mid-1960s and had lived in New York since 1966. He is survived by his wife, Fan B. (Bass) Pinkerson, an artist known in New York as Ian Pinkerson.

He was chairman of the Governor's Council on Highway Safety for 15 years and was an early proponent of patrolling the highways in unmarked cars and of chemical tests to determine if drivers are intoxicated.



Harry Pinkerson

He was also chairman of the Providence Mayor's Committee for Highway Safety for a number of years and formed the Metropolitan Traffic Safety Committee, known as METSO.

He served as chairman of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce's Downtown Business Coordinating Council for many years and was president of the Rhode Island Council of Chambers of Commerce.

Mr. Pinkerson served as president of the Downtown Providence Parking Plan from its inception in 1956 until 1964. He was also an incorporator of the Majestic Garage on Washington Street.

The Pinkersons have summered in Providence since 1946. Mr. Pinkerson was president of the Provincetown Symphony Society and served for three years as president of the Provincetown Art Association.

Mr. Pinkerson suffered a heart attack the day after he returned from a three-month trip to Africa and died three days later.

Other survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Billie Scheur of New York; a son, Dr. Alan L. Pinkerson of Washington; a sister, Mrs. Libbie Jasse of St. Augustine, Fla., and six grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

Mr. Pinkerson served as president of the Downtown Providence Parking Plan from its inception in 1956 until 1964. He also was an incorporator of the Majestic Garage on Washington Street.

The Pinkersons had summered in Provincetown, Massachusetts, since 1946. Mr. Pinkerson was president of the Provincetown Symphony Society and served for three years as president of the Provincetown Art Association.

Mr. Pinkerson severed his connection with his Rhode Island business in the mid-1960s and had lived in New York since 1966.

He is survived by his wife, Fan B. (Bass) Pinkerson, an artist known in New York as Ian Pinkerson.

Other survivors are a daughter, Billie Scheur of New York; a son, Dr. Alan L. Pinkerson of Washington; a sister, Libbie Jasse of St. Augustine, Florida, and six grandchildren.

4-11-75

* * *

HARRY PINKERSON

Harry Pinkerson, 71, founder of a downtown Providence women's apparel store and first owner of radio station WLKW, died April 4 in Manhattan. He suffered a heart attack on April 1, the day after he returned from a three-month trip to Africa.

Mr. Pinkerson was active in Providence city affairs and served for 18 years on the City Plan Commission. He was dubbed "Mr. Parking" after devising the downtown merchants' parking validation plan and was an active traffic safety proponent on state and local commissions.

He founded the Pinkerson Company in the 1930s and operated it for 33 years until he sold the Westminster Mall store in 1966. It has since closed.

With the late Mowry Lowe, well known in the Rhode Island radio industry, he founded Radio Rhode Island, which began operating as WLKW in 1961.

He was chairman of the Governor's Council on Highway Safety for 15 years and was an early proponent of patrolling the highways in unmarked cars and of chemical tests to determine if drivers were intoxicated.

He also was chairman of the Providence Mayor's Committee for Highway Safety for a number of years and formed the Metropolitan Traffic Safety Committee, known as METSO.

He served as chairman of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce's Downtown Business Coordinating Council for many years and was president of the Rhode Island Council of Chambers of Commerce.

PINKERSON, Harry