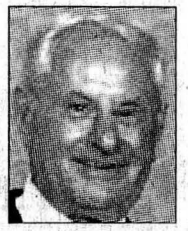
PJ 1/19/2002 ROITER, Irving

Irving Roiter, 85; civil activist, ex-business owner, fundraiser

NEWPORT — Irving J. "Chick" Roiter, 85, of 3 Greenough Place, a retired pharmacist, fundraiser and noted charity volunteer, died yesterday at Newport Hospital.



He was the husband of Hilda Cohen Roiter. They had been married for 60 years. Born in Newton, Mass., he was a son of the late Joseph and Zipporah Gretesh-man Roiter.

Mr. Roiter was the manager and head pharmacist of the Adams Drug on West Main Road, Middletown, retiring in 1983. He also had owned and operated Franklin Drugstore on Spring Street for many years. From 1961 to 1966, he was vice president in charge of sales for Transcom Electronics.

He had an extensive and deep commitment to civic, charitable and religious causes throughout his life. He was one of the founders of the Boys Club of Newport and served the club in many capacities over a 30-year period, including as president, member of the board of directors, and chairman of the public relations committee.

In recognition of his lifelong service, he was awarded the Man and Boy Award in 1961, the highest honor bestowed by the Boys Club.

Mr. Roiter was involved in the Kiwanis Club for many years, serving as president in 1955.

He played an important role in planning and staging the Newport Jazz Festival in its early years.

He was an active fundraiser for many causes, particularly the March of Dimes, for which he was general chairman and Newport County campaign director.

Mr. Roiter also was an active member of Touro Synagogue and served on its board of directors.

Besides his wife, he leaves three sons, Jeffrey M. Roiter of Woonsocket, Eric D. Roiter of Chestnut Hill, Mass., and James W. Roiter of Madison, N.J.; two daughters, Jane Esch of Chicago and Jill Buck of Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.; a brother, Morris Roiter of Newton, Mass.; and six grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Bertha Ross, Ida Cohen, Cecelia Metz, and Fanny and Harry Roiter.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. in Hoffman Jewish Memorial Chapel, Fowler Avenue. Burial will be in Beth Olam Cemetery, Middletown.

ROITER, Irving J. "Chick"

January 18, 2002. Husband of Hilda (Cohen) Roiter. Father of Jeffrey M., Eric D., James W. Roiter, Jane Esch, and Jill Buck. Brother of Morris Roiter. Grandfather of six. Funeral Sunday at The Hoffman Jewish Memorial Chapel, Fowler Ave., Newport at 1 P.M. Memorial week will be observed in the Roiter's Home, Sunday - Thursday 6 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to The Boys & Girls Club of Newport County, 95 Church St., Newport, RI 02840 or to Touro Synagogue, 85 Touro St., Newport, RI 02840.