SOLOMON, LEONARD

PJB 12-18-03

OBITUARIES

Ex-retailer Leonard Solomon, 87; civic leader, sports Hall of Famer

EAST GREENWICH — Leonard Solomon, 87, of St. Elizabeth's Way, a retired haberdasher, a former Rhode Island Small Businessman of the Year, and an athletic Hall of Famer, died yesterday at St. Elizabeth Home.

He was the husband of the late Gertrude (Epstein) Solomon. A lifelong resident of East Greenwich, he was a son of the late Benjamin and Dora (Silverman) Solomon.

Mr. Solomon had been the owner-operator of Ben Solomon Inc. for many years, retiring in 1983.

He was president of the East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce, and in 1969 was selected Rhode Island Small Businessman of the Year, and was honored in a ceremony led by former Gov. Frank Licht.

In 1974, he was inducted into the East Greenwich Athletic Hall of Fame, and was the founder and co-chairman of the Citizens Scholarship Committee, organizing its annual high school letterman's banquet for many years.

He was a chairman of the East Greenwich Ambulance Association, and an honorary life member of the East Greenwich Fire Company.

Mr. Solomon was a former adviser and patron of the Boy Scouts, and had sponsored many local athletic teams, including Little League baseball, youth hockey, Pop Warner football, and men's bowling and softball teams.

He was a graduate of East Greenwich public schools, had attended the University of Rhode Island, and New York University, and was a member of the URI Century Club.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific.

Mr. Solomon was a member of the Lions Club.

He leaves a daughter, Erna Jane Kondon of North Kingstown; two brothers, William Solomon of North Brunswick, N.J., and Harvey Solomon of Takoma Park, Md.; a sister, Shirley Wittcoff of St. Louis; and two granddaughters.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 2 p.m. in Temple Sinai, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery. Warwick.

SOLOMON, Leonard

December 17, 2003. Residence, 1 St. Elizabeths Way, East Greenwich. Beloved husband of the late Gertrude (Epstein) Solomon. Devoted father of Erna Jane Kondon of North Kingstown, William Solomon of North Brunswick, NJ and Harvey Solomon of Takoma Park, MD. Dear brother of Shirley Wittcoff of St. Louis, MO. Loving grandfather of Rachel and Sarah Kondon. Funeral Service Friday 2pm in TEMPLE SINAI, 30 Hagen Ave., Cranston. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the

Gertrude Solomon Education Fund, c/o Jewish Community Center, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI 02906. Shiva will be observed at the home of Ms. Erna Jane Kondon, 7 Walnut Rd., North Kingstown, Sunday 1-6pm. Arrangements by SHALOM MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston