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OBITUARIES

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Coleman B. Zimmerman, 69; ex-GOP leader in R.I. House

ZIMMERMAN, COLEMAN B

CRANSTON — Coleman B. Zimmerman, 69, of 22 Oaklawn Ave., and Hollywood, Fla., a former Republican House minority leader and state attorney general candidate, died Thursday night at the Jane Brown building of Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Carolyn (Kotler) Zimmerman.

In 1956 he was the unsuccessful Republican candidate for attorney general. Also that year, he delivered one of the seconding speeches for President Eisenhower at the Republican National Convention at the Cow Palace in San Francisco.

The next year he was appointed chairman of the state Republican Party's standing committee on legislation.

Born in Woonsocket, Aug. 3, 1908, he was a son of the late Joseph and Lena (Falk) Zimmerman, and lived in Providence before moving to Cranston seven years ago.

After graduating from Woonsocket High School, he attended the Boston University School of Business Administration. He received his graduate education at Boston University Law School where he was a member of the Boston University Law Review, vice president of Woolsac, an honorary law society, and holder of its key. He was the first marshall of his graduating class, and received his law degree cum laude. He was also a member of the Rhode Island and Massachusetts Bar Associations.

In 1946 he was elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives from the 22nd District and served for four successive terms. The last two years, he was elected Republican deputy floor leader and floor leader respectively. He served as the Burrillville Town Solicitor for three years and in 1956 was named the Glocester Town Solicitor. In 1954 was acting chairman of the Republican Legislative Committee and was a member of the Republican State Central Committee and the Executive Committee.

He was a past president of Temple Beth Israel, a member of Roger Williams Lodge of B'nai B'rith, a member of the board of the General Jewish Committee of Providence, the Redwood Lodge of Masons and the Burrillville Lions Club.

Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Ira Zimmerman of Cranston; a brother, Irving Zimmerman of Woonsocket; two sisters, Mrs. Beatrice Goldberg and Mrs. Charlotte Appleman, both of Miami Beach, Fla., and three grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Temple Beth Israel, 155 Niagara St., Providence. Burial will be in B'nai Israel Cemetery, Woonsocket.