

Harold Frutchey

HACKETTSTOWN — Harold E. Frutchey, 86, died Monday, June 16, in the Forest Manor Convalescent Home.

Born July 16, 1910, in Scranton, Pa., he was a son of the late Ernest and Mae Frutchey.

He was a fabrication and equipment engineer for Johnson & Johnson, retiring in July 1975. He was a plastic pioneer in the 1930s and was employed by Consolidated Molded Products Corp. in Scranton. He designed the first mold to produce the distributor cap for the 1932 Ford V8 engine. He was also employed by Ideal Plastics Corp. in Long Island, N.Y. and Dow Chemical Co.

He served as professor at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, establishing the first course in plastic and mold design.

During World War II, he was involved in the designing and producing of plastic parts used in the Rolls Royce Merlin engine, used in RAF Spitfire planes. After the war, he began Thomas Manufacturing Corp. in Newark, which produced items for stores such as Woolworth's. In 1951, he was vice president of Bergen Toy and Novelty Co.

He was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Hackettstown, singing in the choir for many years.

He was a 50 year member, secretary and a Paul Harris Fellow of the Hackettstown Rotary Club, and a charter member of the Hackettstown Historical Society.

He was secretary and treasurer for the Hackettstown Parking Authority; was a member of the Men's Ecumenical Club of Allamuchy; member of the Lackawanna County Junior Order of the United American Mechanics; and was an avid turtle and coin collector.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sarah; a son, Bruce of Longwood, Fla.; a daughter, Jane Scott of St. Paul, Minn.; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A sister, Margaret Reynolds, died earlier.

Services were held from Cochran Funeral Home, Hackettstown. Burial was in Memorial Cemetery in Taylor, Pa.

The family requests memorials to the church, Main Street, Hackettstown, N.J. 07840; or to the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 132 Union St., Taylor, Pa. 18517.

Harold E. Frutchey, plastics pioneer

Harold E. Frutchey, 86, of 304 Moore St., Hackettstown, died Monday, June 16, in the Forest Manor Convalescent Home.

He was a fabrication and equipment engineer in the engineering services department for Johnson & Johnson, retiring in July 1975. He was a plastic pioneer in the 1930s and was employed in the engineering department of Consolidated Molded Products Corp. in Scranton. He designed the first mold to produce the distributor cap for the 1932 Ford V8 engine. He was also employed by Ideal Plastics Corp in Long Island, N.Y., and Dow Chemical Co.

He served as professor at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, establishing the first course in plastic and mold design.

Born July 16, 1910, in Scranton, Pa., he was a son of the late Ernest and Mae Lewis Frutchey.

During World War II, he was involved in the designing and producing of plastic parts used in the Rolls Royce Merlin engine, used in RAF Spitfire planes. After the war, he began Thomas Manufacturing Corp. in Newark, which produced items for stores such as Woolworth's.

He was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Hackettstown where he sang in the choir for many years.

He graduated from Scranton Technical High School and attended both the University of Scranton and Penn State University.

In 1945, he was one of the founders and charter member of the Newark Section of the Society of the Plastics Engineers and in 1949 became president.

In 1951, while a resident of Hackettstown, he was vice president of Bergen Toy and Novelty Co.

He was an active member, secretary and a Paul Harris Fellow of the Hackettstown Rotary Club. He was honored Nov. 10, 1993, for having more than 50 years of service to the club. He was a charter member of the Hackettstown Historical Society.

He was secretary and treasurer for the Hackettstown Parking Authority. He was a member of the Men's Ecumenical Club of Allamuchy and a member of the Lackawanna County Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He was an avid turtle and coin collector.

He and his wife, Sarah, were married 58 years.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Bruce Longwood, Fla.; a daughter, Jane Scott of St. Paul, Minn.; grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

A sister, Margaret Reynolds, died earlier.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday from the Cochran Funeral Home, 905 High Street, Hackettstown. Call 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesday in the funeral home. Burial will be in Memorial Cemetery in Taylor, Pa.

The family requests memorials to the church, Main Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840; or the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 132 Union St., Taylor, PA 18517.

Easton Express Times
June 17, 1997
Harold E Frutchey
Date of Death
June 16, 1997