

# Jesse Lawrence Jr., 'great community leader'

Jesse H. Lawrence Jr., 66, of Port Murray, died Oct. 30, at Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown.

Born July 6, 1934 in New York City, N.Y., he was a son to Florence Schmidt and the late Jesse H. Lawrence, Sr.

He lived in Hackensack prior to moving to Port Murray 28 years ago.

He was vice president with Commerce Bank of Flemington, in charge of government banking. Prior to that, he worked in the same capacity for First Union Bank, before retiring in 1999.

He served in the Army during peacetime.

He was very active in numerous civic and professional organizations. He was an avid golfer, hunter and fisherman. He was a member of the Schooley's Mountain Presbyterian Church.

"It is a very sad day for all of us. We lost a good friend and a great community leader. Everytime I look around this bakery, I think of him. People don't even realize what he did for this community," said Hackettstown resident and business owner, Pat Harper.

Harper fondly remembers that Lawrence helped her and husband Bill obtain the financing they needed to get their landmark business started, "He'd come in and kid us all the time that he was checking up on us. Without his help, we wouldn't have been able to do this."

Survivors include his wife, Marcia Lawrence; a son, Jesse H. Lawrence III of Fanwood; five daughters, Cynthia Routledge of Clarksville, Tenn., Robbin Rinier of Long Valley, Lori Fredericks of Hackettstown, Wendy Halama of Washington Township, and Melissa Lawrence-Wagoner of Manhattan, N.Y.; his mother, Florence Lawrence; a brother, Robert Lawrence of Bethlehem, Pa.; a sister, Kathryn Hall of Old Saybrook, Conn.; and 15 grandchildren.

Services were held at Cochran Funeral Home, Inc. in Hackettstown.

Interment was at Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Schooley's Mountain.

Contributions may be made in his name to the Growing Stage Theatre, P.O. Box 36, Netcong, N.J. 07857.

## Jesse H. Lawrence Jr.

PORT MURRAY — Jesse H. Lawrence Jr. died Monday, Oct. 30, 2000, in Morristown Memorial Hospital. He was 66.

He was a vice president in charge of government banking at Commerce Bank in Raritan Township before retiring last year. Previously he worked for First Union Bank.

Born in New York City, a son of Jesse and Florence Schmidt Lawrence, he lived in Hackensack before moving to Port Murray 28 years ago.

He was a member of Schooleys Mountain Presbyterian Church.

He served in the Army during peacetime.

He was active in several civic and professional organizations, and was an avid golfer, hunter, and fisherman.

He is survived by his mother, his wife, Marcia Koster Lawrence; a son, Jesse Lawrence III of Fanwood; five daughters, Cynthia Routledge of Clarksville, Tenn., Robbin Rinier of Long Valley, Lori Fredericks of Hackettstown, Wendy Halama of Washington Township, and Melissa Lawrence-Wagoner of New York; a brother, Robert Lawrence of Bethlehem, Pa.; a sister, Kathryn Hall of Old Saybrook, Conn., and 15 grandchildren.

The funeral was held Nov. 2 at Cochran Funeral Home in Hackettstown.

Burial was in Schooleys Mountain Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Growing Stage Theater, Box 36, Netcong 07857.

Express Times: November 2, 2001

Warren Reporter: December 2, 2001

NAME: Lawrence, Jesse, Jr.

DATE OF DEATH: October 30, 2001