

Market Founder O'Dowd Dead in Long Valley at 81

William O'Dowd Sr., retired dairy farmer who was a founder and past president of the Hackettstown livestock auction market, died January 10 at his home, 74 Fairview Avenue, Long Valley, after an extended illness. He was 81.

Rites were held Friday at the Coughlin Funeral Home, Califon, followed by a Mass of Resurrection at Our Lady of the Mountain R. C. Church, Schooley's Mountain. Burial was in the adjoining parish cemetery.

Mr. O'Dowd was born April 15, 1892, at Pine Brook, a son of the late William and Mary King O'Dowd. He lived in that section, engaged in the production and marketing of milk with his brothers, the late Joseph and Dan O'Dowd, until 1928 when he moved to the property on West Mill Road, Long Valley, which is now part of Scott Farms. He also operated a gasoline station for several years at Pine Brook.

In Long Valley, Mr. O'Dowd pursued dairy farming for 25 years before selling his farm in 1953 to Philip C. Scott, a New York attorney who still operates the farm.

Active in the Farm Bureau.



WILLIAM O'DOWD SR.

Mr. O'Dowd was one of the founding members of the Livestock Cooperative Auction Market Association of Northwest Jersey at Hackettstown in 1940. He was a director of the market until his retirement from farming in 1953, and he served as president of the highly successful cooperative from 1945 thru 1948.

His interest in livestock continued when he moved from the farm to Fairview Avenue, where for many years he stabled horses and ponies, chiefly for the enjoyment of children. He was the friend of hundreds of children also as the driver of a Washington Township school bus from 1955 until 1968.

Mr. O'Dowd was married in Caldwell on April 29, 1920, to Miss Margaret Gearty of Verona. The couple celebrated their 50 wedding anniversary with a mass at Our Lady of the Mountain Church and a reception for 200 relatives and friends at the Schooley's Mountain Community House in 1970.

Beside his wife, Mr. O'Dowd leaves two daughters, Mrs. Mary Darter, head nurse of the Washington Township Schools at Long Valley, and Miss Peggy O'Dowd, a teacher in the New York City school system. He also leaves five grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Agnes Healy of Scotch Plains.

Star-Gazette,
January 18, 1973

OBITUARY: William O'Dowd Sr.
Date of Death,
January 10, 1973