

Retired Lt. C.A. Pfeiffer Dead; Funeral Today

HACKETTSTOWN — Charles A. Pfeiffer, a retired lieutenant of the New Jersey State Police who was in charge of the detail during the Hauptmann trial at Flemington in 1934, died suddenly Monday evening after being stricken at his home, 220 Grand Avenue. He was in his 76th year.

Lt. Pfeiffer served 26 years in the State Police and was in command of District B-6, covering the stations at Netcong, Newton, Sussex and Hainesville, when he reached the compulsory retirement age of 55 in 1953. Subsequently he was employed for a few years at Centenary College for Women. He had made his home in Hackettstown since 1929.

The State Police organization was only six years old when Lt. Pfeiffer enlistend on Mar. 15, 1927, and took his training in the 14th class to go through the

school at Wilburtha. His first assignment was at the Netcong barracks in the era when the motor vehicle speed limit was 30 miles an hour and duties of troopers still included horseback patrols in the lakeland area.

Handled Lindbergh Crowd

Earning his corporal's stripe, he had brief assignments at the Ramsey, Waldwick and Pompton Lakes before he was sent to Flemington in July of 1932 for what proved to be an unusually long command of 15 years, during which he was promoted to sergeant.

Lt. Pfeiffer had been in the Hunterdon Countyseat only a couple of years when the arrest of Bruno Richard Hauptmann for the Lindbergh baby murder in late September of 1934 made that small community the center of world attention. Hauptmann was moved from the Bronx to Flemington in October and was tried the following January and February, bringing mobs of curious persons who over-ran the town. Much of the detail of handling the crowds and other phases in connection with guarding the prisoner and the trial itself fell upon Lt. Pfeiffer and his contingent of troopers, although a large supplemental force of State Police was brought in for the special duty.

Featured in Magazine

A degree of notoriety came to Lt. Pfeiffer in the mid-1940's when a nationally-circulated detective magazine carried a feature story on the part he played in solution of a double murder near Frenchtown.



AT HAUPTMANN TRIAL
...C. A. Pfeiffer

51 when he was in command of the Capitol Police in the Statehouse at Trenton.

High School Athlete

Born Oct. 11, 1898, at Keasby in Middlesex County, Lt. Pfeiffer was a son of the late Charles and Mary Bertram Pfeiffer. He was a graduate of Woodbridge High School, where he starred in baseball — a sport he continued in amateur ranks after his school days.

During World War I he had a year of active duty with the Naval Reserve, and he was employed by the United States Lead Company before joining the State Police.

Lt. Pfeiffer was a 32nd degree Mason, a member of American Lodge No. 83, Woodbridge, and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Trenton. He also belonged to the Association of Former New Jersey Troopers.

He leaves his wife, the former Helen Herrick, a retired teacher; a son, Richard C. of Hackettstown, also a teacher, who was captain of the 1953 H.H.S. grid squad; and the Rutgers University class of 1920.

Star-Gazette,
March 7, 1974

OBITUARY:
Charles A. Pfeiffer
Date of Death,
March 4, 1974

First: W. M. PHILLIS CRAMER
Major
BY: WILLIAM E. SEMANCHIK
Towship of Allamuchy
Professional services outlined.
The CLIENT hereby engages the firm
OF THE CLIENT, and (5) publicly
this Agreement; (4) authorized the
QUALE AND LYNCH in accordance
sufficient funds for payment for said
services; (3) authorized compensation to
QUALE AND LYNCH; (2) appropriated
professional planning services of
dated February 7, 1974 has (1) retained the
WHEREAS the CLIENT in a resolution
obtained by competitive bidding and
non-competitive bidding, or by
the manner to the Estate of
deceased R.L. 1974
of the County of Warren, made
the Nineteenth day of February A.D.
74, notice is hereby given to all persons
having claims against the Estate of Sarah
Mabel Woodrow deceased, late of the
Towship of Allamuchy, New Jersey, to
present the same to the undersigned at
the County of Warren, New Jersey, on or
before the day of March 11, 1974, at
the County of Warren, New Jersey, for
the purpose of settling the claims of
the Estate of Sarah Mabel Woodrow
deceased, late of the County of Warren,
New Jersey, and for the purpose of
distributing the assets of the Estate of
Sarah Mabel Woodrow deceased, late of
the County of Warren, New Jersey, to
the persons entitled to the same.