

JAMES EUGENE MCELDOWNEY

Jan 28, 1915 - Feb 26, 1999



James Eugene McEldowney of Corvallis died Friday at Good Samaritan Hospital. He was 84. He was born in Monmouth to Thomas and Elsie Shattuck McEldowney. He graduated from Independence High School and attended Oregon Normal School. He owned and operated a Siberian ice cream shop in The Dalles.

In 1941, he obtained a commercial and instructor's flight rating, and with a partner formed a Navy flight school in Safford, Ariz., where he acted as chief pilot and operations manager. The Navy terminated these contract flight operations in 1944 and he went on active duty as a Navy flight training officer until the end of World War II.

He married Anita Stolp in 1945. After the war, he was a partner in Arizona Airways, an aircraft operation at Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix, until 1950 when he sold his share and returned to Oregon.

He operated an aerial photography business, Western Ways Inc., with a partner until he entered the real estate business in 1956. He established Town and Country Realty in 1958 and operated the business until selling it in 1982.

He was a past president of the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce and co-founded Corvallis Ambassadors with Jim Barrett. He was active in numerous civic and professional organizations. One of his more memorable Rotary experiences was attending the first established Russian Rotary Club in Moscow in 1990. He belonged to OSU Beaver Club, Grace Lutheran Church in Corvallis, Corvallis Country Club and the OSU Educational Foundation Roundtable.

He enjoyed golf, traveling, fishing and athletic events. In recent years, he particularly enjoyed being involved with his grandchildren and attended many activities and games in which they were involved.

He is survived by his wife, Anita McEldowney of Corvallis; son Craig of Corvallis; daughter Sandra Conklin of Eugene; brothers Joe of Denver and Mike of Junction City; sister Maude Mahoney of Bend; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Don; his brothers, Frank, Tom, Bill and Don; and a sister, Louise Terway.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 4, at Grace Lutheran Church. The Rev. Dan Hallgrimson will officiate. Private family graveside services will be held earlier at Oaklawn Memorial Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Lutheran Church or the Good Samaritan Hospital Cardiovascular Center in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 N.W. Fifth St., Corvallis, OR 97330.

-Corvallis Gazette-Times (Online)

(2/28/99)