

Dr. Thomas McHugh, 78, Educator; Assistant Principal In Town Schools

Dr. Thomas McHugh, 78, of Scotch Plains, whose career with the Westfield school district spanned 24 years, died on Sunday, December 13, in Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, he moved to Scotch Plains 30 years ago.

Dr. McHugh had retired in 1993 as Assistant Principal of Westfield High School, a post he assumed in 1988. He had previously served in the same capacity at both Edison and Roosevelt junior high schools, now Edison Intermediate and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools, in Westfield.

He had been an Assistant Principal and two-time Principal of Westfield High School's summer session, and was also the Protempore Administrator at Hillside Middle School in the Bridgewater Raritan Regional District for the 1985-1986 school year.

Earlier, he had been the Principal of Saint Ann's Elementary School in Newark and a history teacher and guidance counselor at Middlesex High School.

Dr. McHugh graduated from Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in social studies. He earned master's degrees in secondary administration, history and guidance from Lehigh University, also in Bethlehem.

In 1986, he was awarded his Doctorate in anthropology from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, and was certified in Alaska, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

He began his education career in 1959 with the Allentown, Pennsylvania school system, working as a student teacher, substitute teacher and interim principal. He also served as the Director of Guidance for Central Catholic High School, also in Allentown.

Before entering the education field, he had been employed in the Personnel Department of the Bethlehem Steel Company in Bethlehem.

Dr. McHugh was a member of the Westfield Association of Administrators, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the American and New Jersey Personnel and Guidance associations.

He was also a member of the National and New Jersey education associations, and the New Jersey and National Associations of Secondary School Principals.

He was also a member of the Schoolmen's Club of Allentown, the American and Lehigh County historical societies, the Watchung Nature Club, the National Audubon Society and Kiwanis International.

Dr. McHugh was a former Deputy Grand Knight of the Monsignor Watterson Council of the Knights of Columbus in Westfield, and had received recognition for outstanding work as the organization's ad-

Barbara S. Dinielli, 67

Barbara Stamato Dinielli, 67, of Lakewood died on Tuesday, December 8, in Brick Hospital in Brick.

Born in Stamford, Connecticut, she had lived in Jersey City until 1966 and in Westfield from 1966 to 1997 before moving to Lakewood last year.

Surviving are her husband of 47 years, Harry Dinielli; two sons, Daniel Dinielli and Frank Dinielli; three daughters, Diane DiCecilia, Lisa DiCecilia and Constance Santo, a brother, Dominic Stamato, and seven grandchildren.

A funeral mass was offered on Friday, December 11, at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

Arrangements were handled by the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

Benjamin C. Dow, 85

Benjamin C. Dow, 85, of Plainfield died Thursday, December 3, at home.

Born in Somerville, Massachusetts, he had lived in Westfield and Colonia before moving to Plainfield in 1987.

Mr. Dow was graduated from Northeastern University in Boston in 1936.

He served in the United States Army in World War II.

Mr. Dow worked with Bristol-Myers Squibb in Hillside for many years, retiring in 1975.

Surviving is his brother, Richard Dow.

A funeral mass was offered Monday, December 7, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Rahway. Arrangements were handled by the Pettit-Davis Funeral Home in Rahway.

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viser to Squires.

He was also a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Watchung Assembly, and served on the Board of Directors of the Young Men's Temperance Society.

Dr. McHugh had served in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Mary McHugh; a daughter, Maryellen McHugh-Pengelly; three brothers, John McHugh, Charles McHugh and Eugene McHugh, and a grandchild.

A funeral mass will be offered today, Thursday, December 17, at 10 a.m. in St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains.

Arrangements are being handled by the Rossi Funeral Home in Scotch Plains.

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Dr. George Laird, 85, Decorated Veteran; Was Dentist in Westfield for 26 Years

Dr. George S. Laird, 85, of Gouldsboro, Pennsylvania died on Tuesday, October 27, in Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Born in Westfield, the son of the late Dr. George S. and Caroline Gilpin Laird, he graduated from the Pingry School in Elizabeth in 1931.

Dr. Laird had practiced dentistry in Westfield from 1939 to 1965 and in Newfoundland, Pennsylvania, from 1965 until his retirement in 1981.

He attended Wesleyan University and Franklin and Marshall College, and graduated from the Temple University School of Dentistry in 1939.

He served as a Captain in the Medical Battalion of the United States 4th Infantry Division during World War II. Dr. Laird, who participated in the Normandy invasion, was awarded the Bronze Star, Silver Service Star, Bronze Oakleaf Cluster, Assault Arrowhead and the Belgian Courage.

He was a member of the Pennsylvania, New Jersey and American Dental Associations, and a member and Past

Katherine Lewis, 45, Active in Education; Formerly Employed as Financial Analyst

Katherine Tarry Lewis, 45, of King of Prussia, Pennsylvania died on Tuesday, December 8, at home.

Born in Newark, she had lived in Westfield for 21 years before moving to King of Prussia.

Mrs. Lewis graduated from Westfield High School in 1971, and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics from the University of Maine at Orono in 1974.

She had been employed as a financial analyst for Philadelphia Life Insurance Company, Colonial Penn and Penn Mutual. She retired from Penn Mutual in 1990 after 10 years.

Mrs. Lewis was active in the Caley Elementary School Parent Teacher Council for eight years, and in the Middle School Parent Teacher Council for four years, serving as President during 1997-1998.

She was active on the "Wall of Fame" for the Upper Merion Area School District. Mrs. Lewis was also a cub scout den leader for many years, and had served as an assistant pack master.

Frank D. Starr, 93, Retired Butcher; Was Great-Great Grandfather of Four

Frank D. Starr, 93, of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania died on Tuesday, December 8, at home.

Born in Westfield, he had lived in Blairstown before moving to Pennsylvania 12 years ago.

Mr. Starr had owned, operated and was a butcher at Starr's Market in Martinsville for 12 years before retiring in 1978.

He was predeceased by a son, John Starr.

Surviving are his wife, Roberta Conley Starr; four sons, Donald Starr of South Plainfield, Robert Starr of Rahway, Frank Starr of Irving, Texas, and David Starr of Clark; two daughters, Noreen Spitzenfeil of Wind Gap, Pennsylvania and Carol Brown of Middlesex; two stepsons, Richard Woehrel and Robert Woehrel, both of Bridgewater; a sister, Margaret MacKenzie of Westfield; 20 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on Friday, December 11, at the Lanterman

& Allen Funeral Home in East Stroudsburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Matthew's Catholic Church in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, 18301.

Obituaries

Judson Diehl, 81, Citibank Executive; Was Church Financial Secretary

Judson Pond Diehl, 81, of Scotch Plains died on Friday, December 11, at home.

Born in Greencastle, Pennsylvania, he had moved at an early age to Minneapolis, Minnesota. He had later lived in Michigan and Quebec, Canada, before moving to Scotch Plains 34 years ago.

Mr. Diehl had worked for U. S. Steel in New York City for 31 years before retiring in 1970. During his tenure with the firm, he traveled to Brazil, Venezuela and Columbia to supervise the accounting on numerous projects.

He had a second career at the New York City headquarters of Citibank, retiring as an Assistant Vice Presi-

dent after 13 years in the Accounting and Regulatory Reporting departments.

Mr. Diehl received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting from the University of Minnesota.

He served on a special assignment with the United States Navy during World War II.

He was a member of the Fanwood Presbyterian Church since 1969 and was an ordained Elder and Deacon.

Mr. Diehl additionally served as Financial Secretary of the church since his second retirement, and was also a member of the American Legion.

Surviving are his wife, Joan Grady Diehl; two sons, John Diehl of Princeton and Daniel Diehl of Chester, California; a daughter, Sally Gentile of Scotch Plains, and seven grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Monday, December 14, at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 South Martine Avenue, Fanwood 07023.

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Horst Deeg, 65

Horst Deeg, 65, of Scotch Plains died on Monday, December 14, in Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Germany, he came to the United States in 1960 and had lived in Colonia and Fanwood prior to moving to Scotch Plains in 1971.

Mr. Deeg was employed by the Hago Manufacturing Company in Mountaintop as a mechanical engineer for 38 years.

Surviving are his wife, Lore Deeg; three daughters, Sabine Elsassner, Ursula Deeg and Cornelia Deeg; a brother, Herbert Deeg, and five grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held tomorrow, Friday, December 18, at 10 a.m. in the Fanwood Presbyterian Church in Fanwood.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Rossi Funeral Home in Scotch Plains.

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Raymond T. Nelson, 93

Raymond T. Nelson, 93, of Hood River, Oregon died on Tuesday, December 8, in the Hood River Care Center.

Born in Westfield, he had lived in Summit for 58 years before moving to Hood River.

Mr. Nelson had been a carpenter with the New Jersey Bus Transportation Company in Newark for 44 years before retiring in 1968.

He was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels and a member of the Summit Area Gerontological Endeavor (SAGE), both of Summit.

Surviving are two sons, Kenneth R. Nelson and Roger L. Nelson; four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 15, in the First United Methodist Church in Summit.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the William R. Dangler Funeral Home in Summit.

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Catherine Smith, 81, Retired Lunch Aide; Employed at Edison School for 15 Years

Catherine Sisto Smith, 81, a lifelong resident of Westfield, died on Sunday, December 13, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mrs. Smith had been employed by the Westfield Board of Education as a lunch aide at Edison Intermediate School in Westfield for 15 years before retiring in 1983.

She was predeceased by her husband, Rowland L. Smith.

Surviving are a son, Rowland L. Smith, Jr. of Westfield; two daughters, Linda M. Pisano of Roselle Park and Carol L. Brennan of Brick; a brother, Peter Sisto of Cape Cod, Massachusetts; three sisters, Julia

Piscopo, Esther Furino and Marie Merkle, all of Westfield, and five grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held yesterday, Wednesday, December 16, at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield. Interment took place at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Avenue in Westfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad, 335 Watterson Street, Westfield 07090.

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Diana Yuro-DeStefano, 53, Had Served As Financial Manager for AT&T, Lucent

Diana T. Yuro-DeStefano, 53, of Scotch Plains died on Friday, December 11, at home.

Born in Perth Amboy, she lived

most of her life in Scotch Plains.

Mrs. Yuro-DeStefano was employed as a financial manager at AT&T and Lucent Technologies in Morristown for 13 years.

She was a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church in Scotch Plains.

Surviving are a son, Kevin Yuro of Scotch Plains; her mother, Janet Sorensen Yuro of Scotch Plains; a brother, George M. Yuro of Westfield, and her husband, Richard DeStefano.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, December 15, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Interment was at Fairview Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the Gray Memorial Funeral Home, 12 Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

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Agnes F. Rosera, 90

Agnes F. Rosera, 90, of Scotch Plains died on Tuesday, December 8, in the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Spruce, Wisconsin, she had lived in West Allis, Wisconsin before moving to Scotch Plains three years ago.

Mrs. Rosera had been a quality control inspector for the Briggs & Stratton Company in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for 10 years before leaving in 1946.

She was active with Boy Scout Troop No. 595 in West Allis and was a host for the scout exchange program with England, France and Sweden.

She was predeceased by her husband, Everett Rosera, in January.

Surviving are a son, Richard S. Rosera, and three grandchildren. Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 26, in the Schaff Funeral Home in West Allis.

Funeral arrangements were completed by the Walter J. Johnson Funeral Home in Randolph.

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