

Edward Guididas, 86, FMC Manager; Leader In Scouts, Rotary and Kiwanis

Edward J. Guididas, 86, of Westfield died peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, May 15.

Born in Starford, Pa., he lived in Westfield for 48 years.

Mr. Guididas was a human resource manager with FMC in Carteret, retiring after 43 years in 1983. During his tenure with the firm, he began the Carteret Junior Achievement Program, which he also sponsored.

He laid the groundwork for FMC's health care and pension funds, was a member of its Gold League, held the plant's perfect safety record and held offices in the Mid-State Personnel Association and the American Society for Personnel Administrators. In addition, he was a part-time teacher of labor relations at Rutgers University.

Mr. Guididas was a United States Army captain in military intelligence during World War II.

He was a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Carteret and a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Carteret. Additionally, he was the Boy Scout committee chairman of Holy Trinity Pack 73 for 15 years, as well as a Boy Scout leader. He was very proud of his four sons, all of whom achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. Guididas served as a lector at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic

Church and as a Eucharistic minister at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, both of Westfield. He also was a volunteer at the Center For Hope Hospice, which presented him with its "Angel" Award in 2002 for his volunteer work with the organization.

He recently made a hole-in-one with his golfing friends.

Surviving are his beloved wife of 63 years, Helen (McNamara) Guididas, and his six devoted children, Edward R. and his wife, Mary Lou, James and his wife, Diane, Robert and his wife, Ann, William and his wife, Elizabeth, Nancy Kinney and her husband, Brian, and Jean Landergan and her husband, Thomas. He also will be deeply missed by his 19 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Monday, May 21, at St. Helen's Church in Westfield. Burial took place at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

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

Memorial donations may be made to either the Center For Hope Hospice, 1900 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076 or to the Building Fund of St. Helen's Church, 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

May 24, 2007

Gustave Heeger, 87, Devoted to Family; Knights Member and Church Usher

Gustave J. Heeger, 87, of Edison died on Tuesday, May 15, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in Ridgewood, N.Y., he had lived in Westfield most of his life, moving to Edison in 2002.

Mr. Heeger served as a staff sergeant in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. He had been employed as a department manager with Johnson & Johnson, Baby Products Division, in North Brunswick for 35 years before retiring in 1982.

Formerly a member of the Knights of Columbus and an usher at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Garwood, he also was a former volunteer with the JandJ Auxiliary Police in North Brunswick. For the past 12 years, he was a daily communicant at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

He was predeceased by his wife of 50 years, Elizabeth E. Heeger, on May 12, 1995. They were married on February 9, 1945 at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

He also was predeceased by his son, Thomas G. Heeger; his granddaughter, Kelly Lynn, and his sisters, Anne Seeger and Hilda Heeger.

Surviving are his daughters and their husbands, Joanne E. Cogswell and her husband, Gary L., of Moultonborough, N.H. and Edison and Kathleen M. O'Neil and her husband, Joseph M., of Tewksbury; two grandchildren, Laura E. and Michael T. O'Neil; his sister-in-law, Patricia V. Moran of Rahway; one nephew and two nieces.

Mr. Heeger was very dedicated to his family and especially enjoyed time spent with his grandchildren. All who knew him will remember him as a kind and loving man.

The funeral was held on Monday, May 21, from the Memorial Funeral Home, 155 South Avenue in Fanwood. A Mass of the Resurrection followed at St. Helen's Church. Interment took place afterward at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021 or to Helping Hands and Hearts, in care of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, N.J. 07090.

May 24, 2007

Obituaries

Kenneth McCullough, 72, Family Man; Was Former Resident of Westfield

Ken McCullough, 72, of Spring Hill, Fla., formerly of Westfield, died on Good Friday, April 6, 2007.

Born in Detroit, Mich., Ken attended Michigan State University. He had lived in Westfield for more than 20 years.

He retired to Spring Hill following a successful career in executive search with PA International Management Consultants and later his own firm, McCullough Associates. His summers were enjoyed at his home on Lake Titus in upstate New York. Ken will forever be remembered for his warm and sincere smile and for his love of his family and friends.

Ken is survived by his loving wife, Jeanie McCullough, and their blended family of eight children, Sue Checchio of Westfield, Marji McCullough of Avondale Estates, Ga., Linda Crane of Roswell, Ga.,

Michael Venuti of Ossining, N.Y., Debbie Venuti of Stanford, Conn.,

Scott McCullough of Mountainside, Kerry Venuti of Alpharetta, Ga. and Tim Venuti of Salt Lake City, Utah, as well as six grandchildren, Michael and Brian Checchio of Westfield, Morgan and Russell Crane of Roswell, Ga. and Kayla and Brett Venuti of Ossining, N.Y.

Family and friends gathered in Florida to celebrate his life and a second service will be held in Malone, N.Y. on Sunday, July 1.

Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society (1-800-ACS-2345 or www.cancer.org) or the American Diabetes Association (1-800-342-2383 or www.diabetes.org) in his memory.

May 24, 2007



Kenneth McCullough



Photo by Carl Frank

VIEW FROM THE SKIES... Pictured above is the Westfield Airport in 1953, actually located in Clark, which was a fixture in the local area for several decades. Among the pilots who flew from there was Westfield resident Bob Buck, a record-setting aviator who died last month at the age of 93.

Westfield Airport Recalled For Pilot Feats and Records

The following was excerpted from a June 19, 1997 article that appeared in the 25th anniversary edition of This Is Westfield, available online at goleader.com.

Following the transcontinental flight of Charles A. Lindbergh from New York to Paris in 1927, communities throughout the United States began realizing the importance of having their own airfields.

This was the case in Westfield, which debuted its airport - actually located in neighboring Clark - on October 21, 1928, although some newspaper clippings indicate the airport opened March 31, 1929. The airport was located on farmland, which has since been developed with homes. During the 1950s, it became a site along the Garden State Parkway before closing in 1956. Its amenities included a casino (a social club) and a racetrack.

According to former Westfield Mayor Garland "Bud" Boothe, town officials saw the new airport facility as a major selling point for the town, to go along with having a United States Post Office, a railway station on a main train line, a baseball team, a band and, at a later point, night and daytime telephone service.

Prior to its opening, there had been discussion by the town council that the airport should be located on the tract of land which was being used at the time for a sewage disposal plant.

The council believed the site could be used after the Rahway Valley trunk sewer line was completed, thus making the town's maintenance of the sewer plant unnecessary. The area covered by the plant was used instead for what is today Tamaques Park - the largest municipal operated park in Westfield.

Mr. Boothe, a member of the Westfield Historical Society, noted that the airport was fairly large. It had three runways, the longest of which was 2,700 feet, and was located parallel to the parkway. The facility also had two hangers located across the Clark Township and Union County line in Woodbridge in Middlesex County.

There was no air traffic control at the airport or at any other airports at the time. The main runway was located behind Madison Hill Road in Clark. The area is located just south of the Clark interchange on the parkway. The hangers were located in the area on the highway, which has the marking "Entering Middlesex County."

Westfield Airport hosted parachute jumps, one of which resulted in a fatality; air races and aerobatics, as

well as rides. A big air meet was held in June of 1931, co-sponsored by the Westfield real estate board, which included warbirds and planes from World War I.

As recalled by Mr. Boothe, the first pilot to land a plane at the airport was the late Cap Smith, a Westfield realtor for many years. He had been a shipboard wireless operator and later operated a plane based at the Hadley Airport in South Plainfield.

Another Westfield resident, Bob Buck, used to fly a glider at the airport with a friend. He set an altitude record out of Westfield Airport of over 15,000 feet while using oxygen.

This flight almost became a tragic one, however, when the pilot could not find his way down through storm clouds. Mr. Buck finally found a hole in the clouds over Summit and returned home with a realization that flying that day, which had been against the advice of others at the airport, had not been such a good idea.

The pilot later acquired his own plane and, in the fall of 1930, set transcontinental flying records, both east to west, of 28.5 hours and west to east, of just under 24 hours. He then set a record flying back from Havana, Cuba in just under 28 hours in February 1931.

Mr. Buck tested his rubber life raft for this trip in the Westfield "Y" pool. For his Havana trip, he was invited to meet President Herbert Hoover at the White House in Washington, D.C. Mr. Buck is said to have given President Hoover a foot-long Cuban cigar.

During World War II, Mr. Buck was an air transport pilot and researched weather. He joined Trans World Airlines in 1937, and was chief pilot for the airline until he retired in 1974.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Education of the Westfield School District, Union County, New Jersey, at the Board of Education, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey, for the following supplies, equipment or services:

BID FOR:
B 08-10 ROTARY MOWER WITH ON DEMAND FOUR WHEEL DRIVE AND THREE INDEPENDENT MOWER DECKS

BID DUE:
JUNE 14, 2007 AT 2:00 PM

The proposals will be received at the Administration Building, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090, on the date and at the time indicated, and then publicly opened and read aloud.

Proposals must be in strict compliance with specifications. Specifications may be secured from, Purchasing Office 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey 07090 (908) 789-4407. Bids must be made on the proposal forms in the manner designated. Proposals must be endorsed on the outside of the sealed envelope, with the name of the bidder, the bidder's address and the name of the supplies, equipment, or services for which the bid is submitted. It is understood and agreed that proposals may be delivered before the time or at the place specified for opening. The Board of Education assumes no responsibility for bids mailed or misdirected in delivery. No bids shall be received after the time designated.

Bidding shall be in conformance with the applicable requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., pertaining to the "Public School Contracts Law".

The Board of Education of the Town of Westfield, in Union County, New Jersey, reserves the right to reject any or all bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(s), (t), (x), (y), 18A:18A-4(a), 18A:18A-22, and to waive any informalities. The Board further reserves the right to take such alternates as they deem appropriate, and in any order that the Board feels may be in the best interest of the Westfield Public School District.

All bidders are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., Affirmative Action Against Discrimination and N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.

Corporate bidders are required by law (Chapter 33, Laws of 1977) to submit a list of names and addresses of all stockholders owning 10% or more of their stock.

A Non-Collusion Affidavit and a Contractor Questionnaire/Certification also must be filed with the bid. The bid package will also include other documents that must be completed and returned with the bid. Failure to comply with instructions to bidders and to complete and submit all required forms, may be cause for disqualification and rejection of the bid.

All bidders shall submit with their bid package a copy of the New Jersey Business Registration Certificate as issued by the Department of Treasury of the State of New Jersey. (N.J.S.A. 52:32-44)

BIDDERS NOTE: BIDDERS NOTE: Bid security is waived for this bid proposal. By order of the Town of Westfield Board of Education, Union County, New Jersey. Robert A. Berman Board Secretary

1 T - 5/24/07, The Leader Fee: \$70.38

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