

Obituaries

Builder, former state senator Marvin Anderson dies

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By Glenn Howatt
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Marvin Harold Anderson, 79, founder of Marv Anderson Homes and a former state senator, died Friday in Florida after a long illness.

He lived in Bloomington, but spent winters in Bradenton, Fla., with his wife, Luella. They had been married 51 years.

Anderson was a state senator from 1946 to 1959, but he kept his eye on politics after retiring from the Senate, his wife said.

"He really did enjoy politics," Luella Anderson said Tuesday. "But he got busy with the construction business."

As the Twin Cities suburbs expanded after World War II, so did his business, Marvin H. Anderson Construction Co., later known as Marv Anderson Homes.

The company, founded in 1952, built homes in growing suburbs such as Bloomington. Anderson guided the firm, often visiting construction sites, until he retired in the early 1980s. The firm was then sold.

His leadership in the construction industry was recognized in 1995 when he was inducted into the Minnesota Building Industry Hall of Fame.

Anderson also was a founder of the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce and served as its president for

five years.

He had a distinguished war record. He was one of the first U.S. soldiers to be part of the Allied invasion of Africa during World War II, and he was one of a select group of Americans to serve with the British Commandos. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a son, Bruce, of Bloomington; a brother Kenneth, of Mesa, Ariz., and three grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. today at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 8400 France Av. S., Bloomington. Memorials to the church are suggested.

Also noted

► Famous radio and TV broadcaster Harry Caray, called "the life of the party, the life of baseball" during his nearly 60-year career, has died after a heart attack. **Turn to C8.**

► Bob Merrill, the composer and lyricist of "Carnival" and "Funny Girl" and such popular songs as "(How Much Is) That Doggie in the Window," has died at age 74. **Turn to A18.**