

Obituaries

Former DFL Rep. Francis Judge dies at 86

Francis G. Judge, 86, who served one term as a DFL state representative from Worthington and was president of the state's Board of Electricity, died Monday at Presbyterian Homes of Arden Hills.

Judge, formerly of Hopkins, was elected to the Legislature in 1970. His son, Joseph, of Champlin, said he fought for the rights of the small business owner because he didn't think Republican politicians were meeting their needs.

"He was a strong union person and believed if you didn't pay your employees enough it hurt the whole community," he said.

He was appointed to the state's Board of Electricity in 1959 and served as president for part of his four-year term.

He was born near Cannon Falls, Minn., and became an electrician after graduating from Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis.

He married his wife, Katherine, in 1932 and moved to Worthington seven years later. He operated Worthington Electric until he retired and moved to Hopkins in 1971.

"It was kind of a town landmark," his son said. "Everybody knew him."

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Besides his wife and son, Judge is survived by three other sons, Thomas and John, both of Mesa, Ariz., and

Michael, of Coon Rapids; four daughters, Mary Frances Judge, of New York, N.Y., Theresa Brey, of Minneapolis, and Patricia Weideman and Cathy Judge, both of Mesa, Ariz., and two sisters, Marion and Jane Judge, both of Little Canada.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Worthington. Arrangements are by Benson Funeral Home, Worthington.