



HAROLD R. 'HARRY' EPSTEIN

BANGOR — Harold R. 'Harry' Epstein, 82, of 31 Parkview Ave., a retired businessman, died Tuesday, Aug. 18, 1987, at a Bangor hospital after a long illness. He was born in Bangor, Jan. 6, 1905, the son of Max B. and Sarah (Zaretsky) Epstein. He was a graduate of Shaw's Business School, a member of Knights of Pythias, life member of Bangor Elks, member of B'nai B'rith, Zionist Organization, Jewish Community Center, Beth Abraham Synagogue and Congregation Beth Israel. In his youth, he was owner and manager of the Five Aces Basketball Team in Bangor. For 35 years, he was a bail commissioner in Penobscot County. He held the position of president at Congregation Beth Israel for 28 years, and for more than 50 years headed the Hevra Kadisha Cemetery Committee. He was owner of Epstein's Department Stores originating in Brewer and expanding to Stonington, Searsport, Millinocket and Presque Isle. He retired as chairman of the board in 1974. He will be remembered for his philanthropic help to many in Bangor. Surviving besides his wife, Ruth (Goldman) Epstein of Bangor, are two daughters, Mrs. Stanley (Eleanor) Israel of Bangor and Mrs. Bernard (Gail) Kansky of Needham and Hull, Mass.; one brother, Manuel M. Epstein of Haverhill, Mass.; one sister, Mrs. Theodore (Ruth) Kingsbury of Highland Park, N.J.; six grandchildren, Heidi Israel of Brattleboro, Vt., Lori Israel of Chestnut Hill, Mass., Melanie Israel of Burlington, Vt., and Mark Israel of Bangor; Kim and Kenneth Kansky, both of Needham, Mass. He was predeceased by a sister, Mrs. Jacob (Katherina) Potter of Portland; and three brothers, Leonard, Nathan, both of Bangor, and Louis of New Haven, Conn. Funeral services will be held 12 noon Wednesday, Aug. 19, at the Jewish Funeral Chapel, Center Street, Bangor. Memorial Week will be observed at the home of Stanley and Eleanor Israel, 16 Hempstead Ave., Bangor. Remembrances may be made in his memory to the Open Heart Surgery Program, care of EMMC Charities, 489 State St., Bangor, or to Congregation Beth Israel, 144 York St., Bangor 04401. Arrangements by Brookings-Smith, Bangor.

Harry Epstein, clothier

Funeral services for prominent retail clothier Harold R. "Harry" Epstein, 82, will be held at noon today at the Jewish Funeral Chapel on Center Street, Bangor.

Epstein, owner of department stores at Brewer, Searsport, Stonington, Millinocket and Presque Isle, died Tuesday at a Bangor hospital after a lengthy illness.

In 1980, when the Brewer store celebrated its 70th anniversary, Epstein told a newspaper reporter that he began working in the business at age 15, sweeping floors. The store, a small one owned by his father, Max B. Epstein, who began the business in 1910, had six hitching posts out front.

Sixty years later, when horses as a mode of transportation were but a distant memory, he was still coming to the store daily to greet customers and keep tabs on business, even though he was officially "retired."

The store was a major part of Epstein's life, but he found time for other pursuits. In the 1920s, he owned and managed a semi-professional basketball team, the Five Aces, in Bangor. He also served as a bail



Harry Epstein

commissioner for 35 years and was an active member of Beth Israel Congregation.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth; two daughters; a brother; one sister, and six grandchildren.