



RALPH J. PACKARD

Controller

Ralph J. Packard, 75, who retired in 1992 as a division controller at Woodward and Lothrop Co., died of congestive heart failure July 24 at Northern Virginia Doctors Hospital. A resident of the Washington area since 1946, he lived in Falls Church.

Mr. Packard was a native of Chicago and a graduate of George Washington University. He served in the Army in Europe during World War II and was awarded a Bronze Star. He remained in the Reserves until 1971, when he retired as a colonel.

He worked for the department store company for 31 years, as an accountant, budget director and division controller at the Washington headquarters.

Mr. Packard was an elder, session clerk, treasurer and property manager at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Annandale. He had served on committees of the National Capital Presbytery and Mid-Atlantic Synod of the Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Irene E. Packard of Falls Church; two children, David Packard of Sterling and Nancy Packard of Richmond; and a granddaughter.

PACKARD, RALPH JOHN, LTC USA (Ret.)

On Sunday, July 24, 1994 at Northern Virginia Doctors Hospital, RALPH J. PACKARD of Falls Church, VA; husband of Irene E. Packard; father of David R. Packard of Sterling, VA and Nancy I. Packard of Richmond, VA; grandfather of Melanie C. Packard. Friends may call Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at THE EVERLY-COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME, 6161 Leesburg Pk., Falls Church, VA. Graveside service Thursday at 9 a.m. at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Friends should assemble at the Memorial Gate entrance to Arlington National Cemetery for the graveside service. A memorial service will be held Thursday at 7 p.m. at John Calvin Presbyterian Church, 6531 Columbia Pk., Annandale, VA. Memorial contributions may be made to the Memorial Fund at John Calvin Presbyterian Church if desired.

If you run across any interesting or unusual little items like this please send them in so that all of our readers can enjoy them. - Ed.

Packards in *The Rich Men of Massachusetts*

By Dale H. Cook, Roanoke, Virginia

One of the oddities in my library is a pamphlet entitled *The Rich Men of Massachusetts*, by A. Forbes and J. W. Greene, published at Boston in 1851. This rather obscure volume lists about 1500 men who the authors believed to be the richest men in the Commonwealth at the time, along with the estimated wealth of each. About 1000 of the entries contain thumbnail sketches of their subjects. These sketches vary greatly in length, and many of them mention the degree of the subject's "benevolence" - that is, to what degree has the subject given more or less of his property to those destitute of property. Only two Packards are subjects of this volume, and their sketches are exceedingly brief. I thought you might enjoy seeing the entries, though, so here they are, with the figure to the right of the name indicating estimated worth in the dollars of the day.

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

BOSTON

Packard, Sylvanus 150,000
 A native of Bridgewater. Cotton broker. Began with nothing. Benevolent.
 (From page 45)

COUNTY OF PLYMOUTH
 NORTH BRIDGEWATER

Packard, Micah 100,000
 Began with small means. Formerly trader in Boston; now a retired farmer.
 (From page 200)