

W.W. Rayner Falls to Death, Ex-CIA Officer, Lawyer Here

POA 7/30/76
William W. Rayner, 48, a former attorney in Washington, fell to his death Tuesday from the window of a New York City hotel.

At the time of his death, he was vice president, secretary and general counsel of Macmillan Inc., a firm involved in publishing and other enterprises.

Mr. Rayner had joined Macmillan, then known as Crowell Collier and Macmillan Inc., in Washington in 1968 as assistant to the chairman for Washington affairs. He became vice president for government affairs in the firm's offices here in 1969. He was transferred to New York in 1973.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he served in the U.S. Army in the later years of World War II and attended Georgetown University after the war, graduating in 1950. He received his law degree from Georgetown in 1954.

From 1950 to 1954, Mr. Rayner also was a liaison officer with the Central Intelligence Agency. From 1954 to 1956, he was a trial attorney in the Antitrust Division of the Justice Department.

Mr. Rayner was a member of the law firm of Whitlock, Markey and Tait in Washington from 1956 to 1968.

He was a member of the American Bar Association, the International Club in Washington and the Edgemoor Club in Bethesda.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Ann Schneider, of the home in Westport, Conn., five children, William W. Jr., Brian C., Patrick J., Edward Francis and Brenda S., all of Westport; his mother, Helen Ward Rayner, of Stamford, Conn., and a brother Dr. Edward Rayner, of Rockville Centre, N.Y.