OBITUARIES

Samuel L. Devine Dies at 81; Was Congressman From Ohio

Samuel L. Devine, 81, an Ohio Republican who served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1959 to 1981, died June 27 at his home in Upper Arlington, Ohio. Het had cancer.

During his years in Congress, Mr. Devine became ranking Republican member of the powerful Commerce, Transportation and Energy Committee. In 1979, the conservative congressman was elected chairman of the House Republican Conference, the third-ranking Republican House leadership post.

In 1980, in what observers termed a major upset, he defeated for reelection by Bob Shamansky (D), a wealthy lawyer and real estate investor who spent \$90,000 of his own money in a last-minute radio blitz. Mr. Devine, who had defeated Shamansky by a nearly 2 to 1 margin in 1966, did not campaign aggressively. He received 47 percent of the 1980 vote while Shamansky received 53 percent.

Mr. Devine represented Ohio's 12th District in the House, an area that included part of the state's capital, Columbus, as well as a portion of Franklin County to the city's east. It also included the more rural Morrow and Delaware counties.

Mr. Devine was born in South Bend, Ind., and grew up in the Columbus area. He attended Colgate and Ohio State universities and received two law degrees from the University of Notre Dame. He entered into the private practice of law in Columbus in 1940.

Later in 1940, he became a special

agent with Federal Bureau of Investigation. During World War II, he worked on counter-espionage and anti-sabotage activities and served as a liaison officer between the FBI and Office of Naval Intelligence. He left the FBI in 1945 to return to the private practice of law.

He served in the Ohio state House of Representatives from 1951 to 1955, then spent three years as Franklin County prosecutor before winning election to Congress in 1958. He also was a past chairman of the Ohio Un-American Activities Commission and had been a college football official for 27 years.