

Ex-Brunswick chairman B. E. Bensinger dies at 73

BENJAMIN Edward Bensinger, retired chairman of the board of the Brunswick Corp., died Friday of cancer at his Highland Park home.

Mr. Bensinger, 73, a great-grandson of the company's founder, John M. Brunswick, had been with the firm for 47 years when he retired as chairman of its executive committee in 1975. He stepped down as chairman of the board in 1971.

Mr. Bensinger was the father of Peter B. Bensinger, head of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration and an unsuccessful candidate for Cook County sheriff in 1974.

Mr. Bensinger was active in many civic and charitable causes and was past president and chairman of the board of Michael Reese Hospital, serving on the board for 20 years. He also was a trustee of the University of Chicago and a director of a number of businesses.

A GRADUATE of Yale University, Mr. Bensinger joined the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co., now called the Brunswick Corp., in 1928. He was elected a director of the company in 1930 and was named general manager in 1936. When he became president in 1950, the company's annual sales were \$30 million. Annual sales were \$500 million when he retired as chairman in 1971.



Benjamin Edward Bensinger

Mr. Bensinger is survived by his wife, Linda; two other sons, Benjamin Edward III, and Roger G.; and 12 grandchildren. A memorial service will be at 2:30 p.m. Monday at North Shore Congregation Israel, 1185 Sheridan Rd., Glencoe.

Deaths last week

~~Dr. C. Harold Johnson, 82, a physician whose patients included the late President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his wife, Mamie; Jan. 13, in Gettysburg, Pa.~~

~~Ralph Larrabee Gray, 64, former president and board chairman of Armco Steel and before that president of Sheffield Steel, who retired in 1964; Jan. 13, in Kansas City.~~

Johnny Dio [real name: John Dioguardi], 64, who rose from the old "Murder, Inc." ranks to become organized crime's most notorious labor racketeer, arrested in connection with the acid-blinding of labor columnist Victor Riesel, though the case never came to trial, and who was serving 15 years for stock fraud in the Lewisburg, Pa., federal penitentiary at the time of his death; Jan. 12, in a Pennsylvania hospital, of a heart ailment.