

Chotiner funeral:WxPost story 2/5/74 HW 2/5/74

Reporter Barbara Bright-Sagnier may not know Washington well (McComb for Macomb St.). She does not know Irv Ferman, who delivered the oration, at all. Others at the Post do. Last time I saw Irv was in the newsroom. Do I wish I'd known my friend Irv was a "long-time Chotiner friend!" Irv is a liberal who, when I met him during the Truman administration, was the Washington rep of the ACLU. From there he moved to the Nixon's vice-pres. office, where he was in charge of the fair-employment practises commission that used to be part of every v.p.'s office. He then became an International Latex vice president and in that capacity was caught up in the Dodd scandals. He was then officed in the Bender Bldg. His former Nixon connection, I would think, is as relavant to this story as the lesser jobs that are listed. Probably from handout. The Fermans were also friends of the Fulton Lewis Jrs. It is through Irv or Bertha that I warned the Nixon's about the hazards of the back stairs, to the kitchen, when they bought the former Homer Cummings property on Forest Lane. (Mrs. Cummings had falled down them several times.) Irv gave Nixon a dozen of my fanciest birds for Xmas one year. I have a clear recollection of his disappointment when Nixon did not acknowledge, leave alone thank him for them. However, when I needled him about this at the Post he said that Nixon had sent him a very kind letter and he'd send me a copy. Needless to say, it has not arrived. (That was during warm weather. I was not wearing a topcoat.) Bertha comes from a wealthy New Orleans family, apparently one of the older Jewish families there, Paglin. Their interests included broadcasting.