Wilna-Carthage Justice Raymond Murray Dies

A Mass of the Resurrection for Raymond W. Murray was celebrated Monday in St. James’ Church. Rev. James T. Spenard, O.S.A., pastor, officiated. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

A rosary was recited Sunday evening at the Scherer Funeral Home, where a prayer service there preceded the funeral.

Mr. Murray, Village of Carthage and Town of Wilna Justice, died suddenly Friday at his home, 131 North Washington Street.

Born December 15, 1918, in Lowell Mass., Raymond W. Murray was a son of Paul and Rose Plourde Murray. A graduate of Lowell High School, he served in the Army from 1941 to 1945, part of that time in the Pacific theater. He attained the grade of staff sergeant. Wounded on Guam, where he was a platoon leader in a tank battalion, he was awarded the Purple Heart.

On December 22, 1942, in the Chapel of the Pines at what was then Pine Camp, he was married to the former Margaret R. Sheley, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sheley, Herrings.

Mr. Murray was appointed a Carthage Police Department patrolman in October, 1945. In October, 1966 as senior member of the department, he was appointed temporary chief, succeeding the late Philip B. Fletcher, who had retired. Mr. Murray received a permanent appointment as chief in January, 1967, and held that position until April, 1972. On April 5, 1975, he retired as police sergeant, ending nearly 30 years’ service.

Mr. Murray first was elected a Justice of the Town of Wilna in November 1976, assuming the position of the retired Donald F. Homes. He was reelected to that post in November 1979.

Appointed acting Carthage Village Justice in 1978, Mr. Murray was elected to four–year term in March 1980.

Raymond J. Connolly, 323 South Clinton Street, currently serves as acting Carthage Village Justice and as a Justice of the Town of Wilna.
Surviving Mr. Murray are his wife, Margaret; two sons, Robert, of McLean, Va., and Michael, of Palacios, Texas; a daughter Mrs. Kurt (Alice) Koniz, Carthage; two brothers. Francis, of Marlboro, Mass., and James, of San Antonio, Texas; two sisters, Miss Claire Murray and Mrs. Dorothy Chandler, Lowell, Mass.; nieces and nephews.

Mr. Murray was a communicant of St. James’ Church, and a member of the Jefferson County and New York State Magistrates’ Association; Bassett-Baxter Post 789, American Legion, and the Exempt and Benevolent Association of the Carthage Volunteer Fire Department.