



John S. Burke, Jr.

John S. Burke, Jr.
1923-1995

Photo added by FGGolden

John Stephan Burke Jr. V

BIRTH 3 Mar 1923
New York, USA

DEATH 29 Nov 1995 (aged 72)
Westerly, Washington County, Rhode Island, USA

BURIAL River Bend Cemetery
Westerly, Washington County, Rhode Island, USA

PLOT Section 69, Lot 3768

MEMORIAL ID 188196793



Added by diantonelli

John S. Burke Jr., 72, Executive Who Led the B. Altman Chain

John S. Burke Jr., who was chief executive of the once-popular B. Altman & Company department store chain from 1962 until 1986, died yesterday at home in Watch Hill, R.I. He was 72.

The cause was cancer, John W. Townsend, a son-in-law, said.

After joining the store's staff in 1946, Mr. Burke became president in 1954, succeeding his father as chief executive in 1962. He served as chairman from 1969 until 1986, when the store chain was sold by the Altman Foundation, which had owned it since the death of its founder, Benjamin Altman, in 1913.

The 1986 sale ushered in a period of difficult times for the venerable retailing chain, whose flagship store at Fifth Avenue and 34th Street had been a landmark for shoppers since 1906. The chain was acquired in 1987 by the Hooker Corporation of Australia, which filed for bankruptcy protection in 1989. In January 1990, the chain was closed. The flagship store now houses the business, science and industry collections of the New York Public Library.

Mr. Burke, who attended Yale University and served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, spent his entire business career at the store chain.

He was president of the Altman Foundation, which supports a variety of artistic, educational and social welfare programs in New York City, until his retirement from that post early this year. He had been a trustee of the foundation since 1948, and also served as a trustee of the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, the Canterbury School, the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation and the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum.

He was married to Mary Stan O'Connell, who died in 1982.

Bio provided by FGGolden ID 49435771

Family Members

Parents



John S. Burke
1889–1962



Helen G. *Churchill* Burke
1899–1969

Spouse



Mary Stan *O'Connell* Burke
1925–1982

Siblings



Thomas Churchill Burke
1924–2007



Michael Burke
1927–1941



Patricia *Burke* Debany
1931–2018

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Added: 21 Mar 2018

Find a Grave Memorial ID: **188196793**

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