

C. D. Belding, Realtor, Sports Booster Dies



C. D. BELDING

Charles DeLap (De) Belding, 55, prominent El Paso realtor, city builder and long-time active booster of Texas Western College, died Tuesday in his home, 908 E. Blanchard St. He had suffered for some time from a heart ailment.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a. m. Wednesday in St. Clement's Episcopal Church. The Rev. B. M. G. Williams will officiate. Burial will be in the family plot in Evergreen Cemetery under the direction of the Kaster & Maxon Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Dr. Ralph Homan, W. A. Kranzthor, Paul Moore, James E. Rogers, Tom Lea, Jr., and Dean Stahmann.

Mr. Belding, born April 29, 1897, in Mason City, Ill., had been a resident of El Paso since 1920. He came here following his discharge as a lieutenant from the Navy, in which he served for six years during World War I.

When a boy, Mr. Belding lived in Roswell, N. M., until he entered Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind. He left the university to join the Navy.

Shortly after he landed here and got his feet on the ground, Mr. Belding started boosting for the city and TWC, then the College of Mines. He was particularly enthusiastic about the Miners' football squad. Until ordered by his physician to limit his activities because of his health, Mr. Belding, for years, just before each football season, conducted an intensive campaign to sell season tickets.

"The football program at the college, to be maintained, will require that all citizens, who love the game, who like the crowds, the music, the spectacle, buy season tickets and buy them now," Mr. Belding would

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always say, in carrying on the season ticket selling campaign.

Mr. Belding originated the fireworks display at Kidd Field for night games and the exploding bombs every time the Miners made a touchdown. He was an active worker in the Touchdown Club and was an ex-officio member of TWC Athletic Council.

Mr. Belding, a Kiwanian and also a member of El Paso Chamber of Commerce, was for several years chairman of the Sun Bowl game selection committee for the Southwestern Sun Carnival Association. On orders of his physician, he gave up this activity. He was succeeded as chairman of this committee in 1950 by Gene Donohue.

After his arrival here, Mr. Belding became associated with the Mortgage Investment Co. Later, he joined the Marr-Piper Agency.

Mr. Belding and James E. Rogers formed the Rogers & Belding Real Estate and Insurance Co., in 1934.

Surviving Mr. Belding are his widow, Mrs. Betty Belding; a daughter, Mrs. Peter De Wetter, and a grandson, Charles De Wetter, all of El Paso.

Belding Memorial Fund Established

The Executive Committee of the Southwestern Sun Carnival Association voted unanimously Tuesday to establish a De Belding memorial scholarship fund at Texas Western College in honor of the prominent El Paso realtor who died in his home Tuesday.

The executive committee appropriated \$100 to start off the fund.

Contributions to the fund should be sent to Dr. W. H. Elkins, president of TWC.

Mr. Belding previously had been extremely active in the affairs of the Sun Carnival before doctors ordered him to cut down on his outside activity. For several years he was one of the main figures in selecting teams for the annual Sun Bowl game, as well as participating in other Sun Carnival activities.

Judson Williams, a member of the Executive Committee, was authorized to draw up a resolution from the Sun Carnival Association to express the regret of the Sun Carnival at his death.

Howard Maxon, current Sun Carnival president, presided over the meeting, which was held in Hotel Cortez.

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