

## L. R. Harding Taken by Death



**RUSS HARDING**

L. R. (Russ) Harding, former El Paso funeral home director, died early today of a heart ailment at his home in Santa Barbara, Calif. He was 62.

Until his retirement because of ill health, Mr. Harding was a partner in the Harding-Orr and McDaniel Funeral Homes.

A native of Colorado Springs, Mr. Harding came to El Paso for his health and in 1929 established the Valley Mortuary. Later he acquired Memorial Chapel.

IN 1945 he became a partner of Barry Hagedon in the Hagedon Funeral Home and in the following year bought out his partner. James Orr joined the business in 1946 and Pete McDaniel became partner in 1951.

Mr. Harding was elected chairman of the City Democratic Executive Committee in 1945.

He was a past president of  
(Continued on Page A-8, Col. 8)

## L. R. Harding Taken by Death

(Continued From Page One)

the Downtown Lions Club, later a member of Rotary, and belonged to Masonic Lodge 130, El Paso Scottish Rite, and El Maida Shrine. He was a member of St. Clement's Episcopal Church.

HE IS survived by his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Harding; a daughter, Mrs. Maynette Avner of El Paso; two sons, Dr. W. E. Harding of La Habra, Calif., and L. R. Harding Jr. of Washington, D.C.; three brothers, Paul Harding of Hermiston, Ore., Dick Harding of Pueblo, Colo.; four sisters, Mrs. Elmer Fritze of Eugene, Ore., Mrs. William Grabel of Los Gatos, Calif., Mrs. Wayne Hooper of Pueblo, and Mrs. Carl Aker of Kansas; and six grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Harding-Orr and McDaniel.