

Funeral Friday For L. R. Hoard

Funeral services will be held at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow in the Church of St. Clement for L. Roy Hoard, longtime civic and business leader, who died here today.

Graveside services will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. Kaster-Maxon and Futrell is in charge of arrangements.

SURVIVORS include his stepchildren, R. C. Hoard of San Diego, Calif.; Mrs. J. M. Connell, El Paso; Mrs. Ruth Arnold, Newhall, Calif.; Mrs. E. Z. Buck, Reno, Nev.; Mrs. Roy Jackson, Hamilton, Bermuda; and Mrs. M. H. Merritt, Midland, Tex.

Hoard was born Oct. 8, 1886, in San Augustine, Tex. Before finishing high school he went to work for St. Louis and Southwestern Railroad as a telegrapher. He later worked in Lubkin, Tex., serving as assistant postmaster and becoming personnel man with Lubkin Land and Lumber Co. After three years he was sent to Mexico as assistant manager of the Madera Co., lumber operation owned by Mexico North Western Railway.

During the revolutionary activities of Pancho Villa in 1915, the lumber and railway holdings were confiscated and Hoard and others employed there were held prisoners. He was freed on payment of ransom. A year later he went to North Carolina to manage a struggling lumber company which he returned to solvency. He later returned to Mexico and rose to presidency of the railway company which he directed for 25 years. It was

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sold by its Canadian owners in 1944 to a Mexican banking group and Hoard retired to El Paso.

MEANWHILE he and his wife had adopted five nieces and a nephew whom they put through school here and sent to college. His sister, the late Miss Lucy Claire Hoard, was an El Paso teacher for many years and was first principal of Dudley School. She was an assistant professor of education at the time of her death several years ago.

Hoard became involved in community affairs including El Paso Chamber of Commerce, El Paso Country Club and Paso del Norte Chamber of the Morse Telegraphers Club which he headed when it organized in 1951.

In 1950 he revived a dormant insurance company, Best Life, and became board chairman when that firm merged with Fortune Life. He also served as president of the International Club and was active in various other civic and social groups.