

# Death Takes W. G. Roe, 73, Pioneer Here



WILLIAM G. ROE

William George Roe, 73, 920 Park Road, prominent El Paso business man, died Monday morning in a local hospital. He had been ill for only a short time.

He had lived in El Paso since 1895, coming here from Dearborn, Mich. For many years he was in the farm implement business. Several years ago he sold this to D. F. Stahmann and started the W. G. Roe Company, 108 North Piedras Street, distributors for dairy supplies and equipment, which he operated at the time of his death.

Mr. Roe was instrumental in organizing the El Paso Automobile Club. He served as the club's president for one year, opening the inaugural meeting March 17, 1918, in the basement of the old Hotel Sheldon. Mr. Roe announced in his first address to the club, his intentions of seeing good roads throughout the Southwest that were properly marked.

### PROMOTES HIGHWAYS FOR THE SOUTHWEST

At the time Mr. Roe was elected president of the club, there were few roads in this area, none of them paved, and few automobiles. During the following years, he saw a complete transformation in highways of this country.

A road to Deming during World War I, was financed by Mr. Roe, Tom Powers, G. Allie Martin, J. D. Newton and Adrian Poole, all charter members of the Automobile

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Club. The road was financed so that El Paso merchants easily could get to the cantonment at Deming.

Mr. Roe also helped promote Highway No. 1, the Bankhead Highway, and the highway from El Paso to Alamogordo.

He was a member of the Elk's Lodge, Knights of Columbus, and at one time was a member of the Rotary Club.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Blanche Roe; a daughter, Mrs. Blanche Culton of El Paso; and one son, George Winton Roe, managing editor of the Oakland, Calif. Post-Inquiry.

Funeral arrangements were pending with Barry Hagedorn.