

4/4/82

Robert J. Coelho, school superintendent in Attleboro, dies

ATTLEBORO, Mass. — Robert J. Coelho, 48, of 46 Boardman Lane, South Attleboro, superintendent of schools for the past 13 years, died Friday at Fogarty Memorial Hospital, North Smithfield, where he was admitted after being stricken while visiting friends. He was husband of Shirley A. (Ahern) Coelho.



He joined the Attleboro school system as a teacher at the Lincoln Elementary School in 1958. In 1962, he was named principal of the Cyril K. Brennan Junior High, a post he held until he was named assistant superintendent of schools in 1965. He was appointed superintendent four years later.

Mr. Coelho was a 1951 graduate of the former Pawtucket Vocational High School. He was a 1955 graduate of Rhode Island College, where he also earned a master's degree, and he pursued doctoral studies at Brown University. He was a member of the Phi Delta Kappa fraternity.

His memberships included the Massachusetts Basic Schools State Advisory Commission of which he was co-chairman, the National Academy of School Executives, the American Management Association, the American Association of

School Administrators, the Management Association of School Superintendents and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

He was a past president of the Rhode Island College Alumni Association, and a director of the Rotary International and the United Way of Attleboro. He was also a member of the National Model Railroad Association.

Born in Providence, a son of Albert P. and Constance (Cosimini) Coelho of Narragansett, he lived in Attleboro 17 years.

Besides his wife and parents he leaves two sons, Mark T. Coelho, a student at the University of Bridgeport, Conn., and David P. Coelho, a student at Clark University, Worcester; a brother, Donald A. Coelho of Lincoln, and two sisters, Mrs. Virginia Fitzhugh and Mrs. Constance O'Riley, both of Pawtucket.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated Tuesday at 10 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church, North Main Street. Burial will be in Mount St. Mary's Cemetery, Pawtucket.