

## Jose F. Noverca Jr.; 'Mr. Republican,' 64

FALL RIVER, Mass. — Jose F. Noverca Jr., 64, of 355 President Ave., often referred to as "Mr. Republican" in this predominately Democratic city, died Thursday at Charlton Memorial Hospital, Union site. He was the husband of Laura (Mendes) Noverca.

In Fall River, where the Democratic primary is often the final election for lack of Republican candidates, Mr. Noverca often served as a lone voice for his party. When Republicans running for state office came to the city to campaign, it was Mr. Noverca who almost always served as welcoming committee and escort.

In 1970, Mr. Noverca made his bid for office, but lost in the race for state representative from the Ninth Bristol District.

Born in Fall River, he was a son of the late Jose F. Noverca Sr., and Diolinda (Souza) Noverca.

He was administrator of the Noverca Sawmill in the North End. He was a chairman of the Fall River Republican Committee and a member of the state committee. He was also a member of the American-Portuguese Loyalty Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the Marine Museum and the Colonial Navy.

Besides his wife he leaves a daughter, Cynthia Oliveira; four brothers, Antero, Humberto, James and Arthur Noverca; a sister, Mrs. Bertha Anderson, all of Fall River, and a grandson.

A funeral service will be held Tuesday at 9 a.m. from the Manuel Rogers & Sons Funeral Home, 1521 N. Main St., with a funeral Mass at 10 at St. Michael's Church, Essex Street. Burial will be in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

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