

Ex-Raynham police chief Varao dies

RAYNHAM — Joseph M. Varao, 78, of 40 White St., a former police chief, died suddenly Sunday of natural causes at his home. He was the husband of Mary (Martin) Varao.

Born in Taunton, he was the son of the late Manuel M. and Mary (Pimental) Varao and had lived in Raynham most of his life.

He was employed as a miller at Agway Company in Bridgewater until his retirement in 1969.

He was the former police chief of the Raynham police department in 1935, a special officer with the Raynham police for many years and a volunteer member of the Raynham Fire Department.

He was a communicant of St. Ann's Church, past president and present secretary of the St. Vincent dePaul Society of that church.

An avid sportsman, he was a member of the Marshfield yacht club, vice president of the Silver City Seniors, past president and present vice president of the Sociable Senior Citizens of Raynham, member of the Bridgewater Senior Citizens and vice president of the Raynham Village Seniors.

Varao was awarded the Marian Medal by Bishop Daniel Cronin for outstanding service to his church.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a nephew, Francis O. Machado of Raynham. 8/5/83 TG