Obituaries

Leon L. Smith

Leon L. Smith, who served as an appointed Santa Cruz County supervisor in 1955-56, díed Saturday in Santa Cruz at age 85. Services have been scheduled Tuesday.

Mr. Smith was appointed the Santa Cruz district supervisorial post in December 1955 by then-Gov. Goodwin J. Knight. He filled a vacancy created by the death of William A. Deans.

Mr. Smith served for 11 months before Farm Bureau activist Hulda McLean ousted him by only 64 votes in the

November 1956 race.



Leon L. Smith

Before his appointment, Mr. Smith's only other appearance in politics came in 1955 when he sought the same Santa Cruz supervisorial seat. He later withdrew from the race.

A retired building contractor, Mr. Smith was born in Morgan Hill and spent 25 years in the contracting business in San Jose. At one point, he worked on the Winchester Mystery House.

He moved to Santa Cruz upon his retirement in 1951 and had lived here since. Mr. Smith

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was a member of the county grand jury for 1½ years and served as commander of the Santa Cruz American Legion Post 64, of which he was a member for 64 years.

He was also director of the county Republican Assembly and formerly served as Community Chest director and on the advisory board of the local Red Cross. Other past memberships included the Santa Cruz Kiwanis Club and the Santa Cruz Elks Lodge.

Mr. Smith was a veteran of World War I, serving in the Navy. He saw action in both the Atlantic and Pacific from 1917 to 1921.

He is survived by his wife, Ivy Smith of Santa Cruz; and several nephews and nieces.

Services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Norman's Family Chapel, 3620 Soquel Drive, Soquel. The Rev. J. Bernard Corneliussen will officiate.

Friends may call at the chapel from 5 to 9 p.m. today and after 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Interment will be in Oakwood Memorial Park.

Contributions in Mr. Smith's name may be made to the Heart Fund.