

Anderson, M.

Malvin Anderson dies at 93; was sports figure, politician

Malvin R. (Moppy) Anderson, 93, a former state representative and a well-known sports figure in southern Minnesota, died Friday at the Bethesda Nursing Home in Willmar, Minn.

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Anderson was born in La Crosse, Wis., to Norwegian immigrant parents. He attended the Wisconsin Business College and crossed the river in 1914 to work at a Rushford, Minn., bank. In 1922 he moved to Preston, Minn., and was elected Fillmore County treasurer, a position he held for the next 28 years.

Anderson began to pitch semi-professional baseball when he was 5 years old and didn't leave the baseball diamond for good until he was 62. "Pitching was a way to get a leg up

in this world," his son, Kinsey, said Saturday. "People began to know him."

His pitching career was ended when his arm was broken by a pitch from Cannonball Moss. He later managed baseball teams and was umpire for all of Luther College's home games.

In 1950 Anderson was elected first district representative at large for Fillmore and Houston Counties. In 1962 a reapportionment eliminated the representative at large position and Anderson decided not to run for reelection.

"He retired to a life of public service," his son said. Anderson was chairman of the Fillmore County Historical Society for 12 years, chair-

man of the Red Cross Committee for 28 years and a member of the Fillmore County Fair Board.

He also put in 13 years on the Preston school board, was first district commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a district adjutant of the American Legion.

Anderson devoted much of his life to working with children, in sports and in scouting. He received the Boy Scouts' Silver Beaver Award for 33 years of service.

He is survived by sons Kinsey of El Cerrito, Calif., and Philip of Willmar; a daughter, Patricia Campbell of Duluth; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at the United Methodist Church in Preston, Minn. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Thauwald Funeral Home in Preston.



Malvin R. (Moppy) Anderson