

The Pawtucket Times

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Frank W. Westcott Passes, Retired Main St. Merchant

Descendant Of Pioneers
Dies At His Home In
Armistice Blvd.,
Aged 84

Frank W. Westcott, direct descendant of two leading figures in the history of the American colonies and long a Main street merchant, died today at his home, 55 Armistice boulevard, after a long illness. He was in his 85th year.

Native of Seekonk, a son of the late Valorus P. and Emily (Williams) Westcott, he was a direct descendant in the maternal line of Roger Williams and in the male line a descendant of Stukeley Westcott, who aided Williams in the founding of Providence. He was born Dec. 14, 1856.

The family lived in Seekonk until Mr. Westcott was 12 and then came to Pawtucket. He completed his elementary education here and later was graduated from Bryant & Stratton Business College, Providence. He entered the employ of the George E. Allen store in this city and there learned the dry goods business. In 1876 he formed a partnership with E. F. Bowen under the firm name of Westcott & Bowen. In 1882 Mr. Westcott purchased his partner's interest and continued as sole proprietor until retirement.

A successful New England merchant of the old school, Mr. Westcott operated the dress and dry goods store in Main street for approximately 50 years, catering to the leading families in town, a clientele then generally spoken of as "the carriage trade."

The store was located next to the Pawtucket Institution for Savings and was sold to Shartenberg's when Mr. Westcott retired in 1925. About 10 workers were employed in the shop, long known to Pawtucket buyers for its upright trading methods.

A strong churchman and long deacon of the First Baptist Church, he was known to workers as a benevolent employer and to hundreds of customers as a conscientious merchant.

One long-time employe of the store once recalled that Mr. Westcott always instructed new clerks, "Never misrepresent any article you sell. What a customer buys here must be just what we say it is."

Devoting the greater part of life to the successful business he built and operated, he had few other interests save his home and church.

He was named a deacon of the



FRANK W. WESTCOTT

He was named a deacon of the Baptist Church in 1909 and in 1936 with other men in this office was named a life deacon. He was the last survivor of this group, which also included J. Willard Baker, Dexter W. Bellows, Frank L. Gatchell and James L. Jenks. Known as a faithful worker, but not prone to leadership, he held no other offices in the church with exception of serving for a time as superintendent of the intermediate department of the Sunday school.

He was a member of the Rhode Island Chapter, Stukeley Westcott Descendants.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Jenny S. (Briggs) Westcott, a stepdaughter, Mrs. Woodford R. Jones, and one sister, Mrs. Byron O. Dexter, all of this city.

The funeral will be Sunday at 2:30 from the First Baptist Church. Rev. E. C. Prime will officiate. Interment will be in Riverside cemetery.