

## **W. Julian Parton**

W. Julian Parton, 96, died Monday, March 4, 2013, in Kirkland Village. He was the husband of Nancy Nelson (Joy) Parton. Born in Pottsville, he was the son of the late William A. and Edna (Holmes) Parton. He was a graduate of Pottsville High School and Pennsylvania State University where he received a B.S. degree in Mining Engineering in 1938. He was awarded a research fellowship at the University of Washington, Seattle, where he received a Master of Science degree in Mining Engineering. The Pennsylvania State University awarded him a Professional Degree of Engineer of Mines in 1944 as a result of his research work in the coal industry. He accepted a position with the Lehigh Navigation Coal Company in 1939, rising through the ranks to become president of the company in 1952. When that company went out of the mining business, he organized the Panther Valley Coal Company to lease one of the Lehigh Navigation Coal Company's idled collieries. He was chairman and president of the new company. In 1955, he sold his interest in the Panther Valley Coal Company and came to Easton as Assistant to the President of the General Crushed Stone Company. In 1961, he became president of the company, holding that position until 1970 when the company became a subsidiary of the Koppers Company. After the merger he was appointed chairman and president of the General Crushed Stone Company and a vice president of Koppers Company. Following his retirement in 1979, he volunteered with the International Executive Service Corporation to be a consultant to the Resource Development Corporation in Singapore for a three month assignment. Parton was a life member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the Pennsylvania State Professional Engineers, and the National Crushed Stone Association. He served as president of that association in 1968. He was a director of the Easton National Bank and Trust Company and a trustee of the Easton Hospital. He held various positions in the Forks of the Delaware United Fund. He was a member of the Presidents Club and the Obelisk Society at the Pennsylvania State University. Parton was the author of various technical publications on the coal and crushed stone industries. In retirement he published two books, *The Death of a Great Company*, *Reflections on the Decline and Fall of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company*, and *The Story of the General Crushed Stone Company*, as well as a family recollection, *St. John - Our Treasure Island*. After retirement, he and his wife were able to spend six months each year at their home on St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands. He was a former member of the Northampton Country Club in Easton and a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Bethlehem. He and his wife resided at Kirkland Village, Bethlehem, at the time of his death.

**Survivors:** Wife, Nancy; three sons, William of Loveland, CO, John of Glen Mills, and Richard of Garnet Valley; a daughter, Joy Parton Dallmeier of Annandale, VA; five grandchildren; and three great-granddaughters.

**Services:** A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, March 8, in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. Arrangements by the Pearson Funeral Home, Bethlehem.

**Contributions:** In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3219 Santee Road, Bethlehem, PA 18020, or the Kirkland Village Endowment Fund for Benevolent Care, W. Julian Parton