

Washington-area obituaries of note



January 7, 2015

Leonard C. Meeker, ambassador

Leonard C. Meeker, 98, a State Department legal officer who served as U.S. ambassador to Romania from 1969 to 1973, died Nov. 29 at his home in Ocracoke, N.C. The cause was congestive heart failure, said a son, Richard Meeker.

Mr. Meeker was born in Montclair, N.J., and joined the State Department after World War II. As a legal adviser, he played a major role during the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 in developing a “quarantine” of Cuba instead of a blockade, which could have been considered an act of war, his family said. After serving as ambassador to Romania, Mr. Meeker served with the Center for Law and Social Policy, a nonprofit organization serving low-income people.

Frederick C. Rummage, Maryland delegate

Frederick C. Rummage, 83, a Democratic former member of the Maryland House of Delegates and former executive director of the Prince George’s County Educators’ Association, died Nov. 13 at a health-care facility in Montross, Va. The cause was congestive heart failure, said a daughter, Kama Friedman.

A resident of Montross for the past eight years, Mr. Rummage was born in Hunlock Creek, Pa. He came to the Washington area in 1957 as an Army intelligence specialist. From 1966 to 1986, he was a Maryland delegate and chief of the Prince George’s County Educators’ Association. He was a former resident of Camp Springs, Md.

Kitty T. Gottfried, bridge player

Kitty T. Gottfried, 88, a bridge player and former hospitality chairwoman for the Washington Bridge League, died Nov. 24 at her home in Silver Spring. The cause was biliary cirrhosis, said her husband, Paul Gottfried.

Mrs. Gottfried was born Teruko Nakada in Tokyo and came to the United States in 1952 after marrying Gottfried, an American soldier posted in Japan during the Korean War. They settled in the Washington area in 1960. For more than 30 years, Mrs.