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**Deceased: FRANK STANTON, FORMER FBI AGENT, DIES**

**Date: December 25, 1993**

Frank D. Stanton, a former FBI agent who arrested ''Public Enemy No. 1'' in 1943, died Wednesday in Scottsdale, Ariz., of heart failure. He was 79.

Stanton, who had homes in Scottsdale and Arden Hills, had been retired for 13 years from Stanton Associates, a human resources consulting firm located first in St. Paul and then in Minnetonka.

He established himself as an ace FBI agent in April 1943 when he and another agent captured Carl Straka, a foxy robber who had eluded authorities for months in Ohio and West Virginia.

Stanton's account of the capture in Tiltonville, Ohio was printed in the Wheeling (W.Va.) News-Register in June 1943. Stanton used the third person in describing the account - a typical manner of speech in the FBI at the time:

''They called for him to stop, but he ran like a deer. ... One of the agents with a shotgun called for him to halt. Straka reached for his gun and the agent fired. Straka was 40 yards away and was hit by eight shots from the charge and fell.

''Straka had reached under several sweaters for his .38 caliber revolver, but couldn't get it out. That was one of the first things he said - 'I couldn't get the damn thing out this time.'''

Born in Minneapolis, Stanton attended De LaSalle High School and graduated from the University of Minnesota, where he was second baseman on the team that won the Big Ten championship in 1935. He later played minor league baseball in the Detroit Tigers farm system.

After serving in the FBI from 1941 to 1948, he returned to Minnesota to become director of personnel and later vice president of Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association. He left that job to found Stanton Associates in 1955.

Vernal ''Babe'' Levoir, who played baseball with Stanton at the university, called his friend ''one of the finest human beings I've ever known. If anybody was having a tough time, Frank was always the kind of guy who would assist in any way he could.''

He is survived by his wife, Betty McGrath Stanton; sons Michael of New York, Christopher of Arden Hills and Daniel of Minneapolis; daughters Ann Marie of Paradise Valley, Ariz., and Mary Ellen of Lino Lakes; and eight grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 835 Second Ave. N.W., New Brighton. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday in Roseville Memorial Chapel, Hamline Avenue and Minnesota 36, Roseville.

*Author: BYLINE: Aron Kahn, Staff Writer*

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