**Paper: Worcester Telegram & Gazette (MA)**

**Deceased: THOMAS F. O'CONNOR, 81, RETIRED HOLYOKE POLICE CHIEF**

**Date: September 22, 1998**

HOLYOKE - Thomas F. O'Connor, 81, a retired police chief, of Dicsal Lane, died Sunday at home after an illness.

His wife, Mary (Kennedy) O'Connor, died in 1992. He leaves three sons; three daughters, including Mary Dean of Shrewsbury; two sisters; 13 grandchildren; nephews and nieces. He was born in Holyoke and lived here most of his life.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving overseas.

Mr. O'Connor was chief of the Holyoke Police Department for six years, retiring in 1971. He was previously an officer for many years with the Massachusetts State Police. He taught criminal justice for many years at Holyoke Community College.

He was a former professional basketball player and minor league baseball player.

The funeral will be held Thursday from Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home, 2049 Northampton St., with a Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Jerome's Church, 169 Hampden St. Burial will be in St. Jerome's Cemetery. Calling hours are 2 to 4:30 and 6 to 9 p.m. tomorrow at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Jericho, PO Box 1838; or Holyoke Hospital, 575 Beech St., Holyoke, MA 01040.

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