

**LEONARD PATRICELLI,
EX-PRESIDENT OF CONNECTICUT BROADCAST GROUP**

Leonard J. Patricelli, who for more than half a century helped build Connecticut's WTIC radio and television stations into the largest broadcast outlet in southern New England, died Monday (January 26, 1982) of a cerebral hemorrhage at Martin Memorial Hospital in Stuart, Fla. The West Hartford resident, who maintained a home in Stuart, was 74 years old.

Mr. Patricelli began working as a continuity writer with the NBC affiliated, WTIC radio station in Hartford shortly after his graduation in 1929 from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn. During the next 50 years he served in positions ranging from program manager to president. And in 1957, he helped create the WTIC television station.

From 1967 to 1974 he served as president of the entire broadcast group. When Travelers Insurance Company, the longtime owners of WTIC sold the CBS-affiliated television station to the Washington Post-Newsweek Company in 1978, Mr. Patricelli and a Connecticut real estate developer, David Chase, purchased the AM and FM radio stations from the insurance company. At the time of his death, Mr. Patricelli was chairman of the board of directors. Broadcast Editorials Although semi-retired, he continued from time to time to broadcast editorial comment for the station, a practice he started in 1969. Gov. William O'Neill, referring to these editorials, said that they represented "a voice of courage and conviction that would be sorely missed".

Mr. Patricelli had been a member of the Television Board of Directors of the National Association of Broadcasters, the Broadcast Pioneers of the American Broadcasters Foundation and was a former president of the Connecticut Broadcasters Association. Active in civic and cultural affairs, he served on the Connecticut Citizens Committee on Revenue Sharing, Hartford's Martin Luther King Jr. Fund and the Hartford Chamber of Commerce.

He is survived by his wife, the former Isabel Scovill Peterson, and a son and daughter from his first marriage to the former Lydia Erdman, who died in 1972. They are Robert E. of Simsbury, Conn., and Mrs. Joan Bawden of Birmingham, Mich. He is also survived by his three brothers, Michael of New Haven; Alfred of Bridgeport, and Anthony of West Hartford, and a sister, Mrs. Mary Recchia of Waterbury.

Funeral services will be Saturday at St. James Episcopal Church in West Hartford. Burial services will be private.

From the New York Times.