

Harold Edward “Punchy” Neely

February 23, 1918—October 22, 1976

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Harold Neely Funeral Rites Set for Hinton

Funeral services will be held in Hinton Monday for former Republican gubernatorial candidate Harold E. ‘Punchy’ Neely.

Neely, who was 58, died yesterday after apparently suffering a heart attack at his Charleston home.

Harold was the son of Richard Claude Neely and Amy Shepherd. He was a Harvard Law School Student. He married Betty Howarah on July 3, 1948 in Miami FL. Neely served with the Eighth Air Force in Germany and later he participated as a civilian prosecuting attorney at the historic Nuremberg Trials.

For a number of years he had been serving as director of grants and associate professor of political science at Marshall University.

He served as Insurance and Public Institutions Commissioner during the administration of Gov. Cecil Underwood in the mid-1950s. In 1960, he won the GOP gubernatorial nomination by defeating former U.S. Senator Chapman Revercomb. He lost the general election to W.W. Barron.

Services will be at Hinton First Presbyterian Church with Rev. D.D. Elwell officiating. Burial will be in Greenbrier Burial Park, Hinton.

Visitors may call today at Barlow-Bonsall Funeral Home and Sunday from 4 to 9 p.m. at Ronald Meadows Funeral Home, Hinton. The family suggests that memorials be made in the Harold E. Neely scholarship fund of Marshall University.

Underwood Praises Harold Neely

Republican gubernatorial nominee Cecil Underwood, commenting on the death of Harold Neely yesterday said, "Neely was a valuable servant in his administration."

"Harold Neely was a distinguished public servant and cherished personal friend", Underwood said. "His administrative ability made him a good Insurance Commissioner."

Underwood added in expressing his sympathy, "He gave his life in service to the people and it was this attitude that made him the Republican gubernatorial candidate in 1960."

Underwood made the statement following a campaign appearance with about 125 supporters in Elizabeth, Wirt County.