

director dies at the age of 89



FRANK Suter, one of Slough's leading businessmen for many years, died on Monday, aged 89, after a week in hospital suffering from lung cancer.

A Slough resident for many years, Mr. Suter was one of the directors of the Suters department store, which was in the High Street for nearly 60 years.

Born in Herefordshire, he spent his formative years in Golders Green and Croydon, before starting an apprenticeship as an engineer in the Humber car factory, Coventry.

In 1920, his father George William and elder brother Clarence bought their first store in Slough. When Frank joined the company in 1924, he was a manager in the family's sister Uxbridge branch.

He met his wife Vera in 1928, whom he met through her twin sister Cecily. She died in 1969.

In 1941, he was called up and served in the Tank Corps, serving in general manager at Uxbridge, and became chairman of the group when his brother Clarence resigned in the 1960s.

Since the business was sold to Owen Owen in 1978, Frank has enjoyed an active retirement. He lived at Stoke Park, Stoke Poges.

He was a keen gardener, bridge and golf player and played golf only two weeks before he died.

Mr. Suter leaves a younger brother John, 83, and sons Anthony, 60, Ian, 54, and Michael, 52.

He also leaves his grandchildren, Hugh, 30, Robin, 29, Rachel, 24, Jennifer, 18, Simon, 20, Stuart, 17, and Scott, 13.

His son Ian, who has a fashion shop called Suters in Marlow with his wife, Christine, said: "My father never had a hard word for anybody. He was a marvellous person and father, and never showed any favouritism to anyone.

"Although he was not a churchgoer, he was quite a religious person."

The funeral service will be held at Slough Crematorium on Monday at 2 p.m., with family flowers only.

Donations should be sent to the Thames Valley Hospice, c/o G. Smith Wooburn Ltd., 7 The Green, Wooburn Green, Bucks.