

JOHN P. McCARTHY

In the death of John P. McCarthy, The Gazette feels that Baldwinville has sustained a great loss.

As this is written, the word of Mr. McCarthy's death has just arrived. It leaves us with the sense that the community has been deprived of one of its finest citizens.

To his family, The Gazette extends its sincere sympathy. Although they knew in advance that the end was near at hand, nevertheless, the final blow came as a shock.

Mr. McCarthy had all the attributes of a real citizen. He had an interest in the affairs of government of his home village and township in particular, and in the county, the state and nation in general. He took the trouble, as only too few citizens do, to keep well informed.

His service on the board of assessors of the village, particularly during the recent Tappan administration, were of an inestimable value. His diligence in securing knowledge as to what was properly assessable from the State Tax commission proved the means of adding several items to the list for village tax collection which helped to lift some of the burden from local real estate owners' shoulders. Because he was honest in his beliefs, he fought a losing fight on the side of the village against the reduction of an assessment on a local mansion. Mr. McCarthy may have been wrong, legally, but his sense of justice never deserted him. Mr. McCarthy would rather be right than be president.

He served as the militant, but fair-minded, chairman of the Lysander committee of the Lysander-Van Buren Tax Reform association, a purely voluntary organization set in motion to help the various elective boards. In every way possible, to reduce the burden on real estate owners at a time when many small owners of real property were being confronted or were going through mortgage foreclosures.

Connected with his son in operation of the John P. McCarthy and Son contracting business, people came to him with the feeling that they could place absolute dependence upon his advice in any building construction or repair and receive quality work. His honesty and competence were admired and respected throughout the community.

A Democrat in politics in a community overwhelmingly Republican, Mr. McCarthy was nevertheless honored and respected in the sincerity of his convictions by the members of both parties alike.

Although happy in the knowledge that he is freed from the trials of the illness which led to his death, the community which he was pleased to call home truly mourns the loss of this honest and sincere friend.