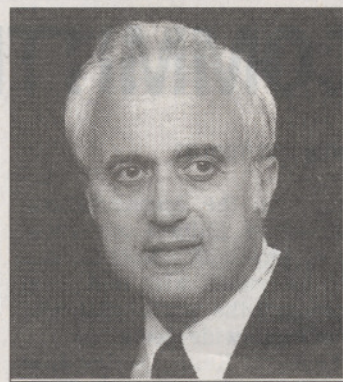


# Obituary of Solon Anthony Bennett

September 21, 1922 to November 17, 2004

*"A Friend of Cooperative Supply Management"*



**Solon Anthony Bennett**

Solon Anthony Bennett, beloved husband, father, and new grandfather passed away peacefully at the age of 82 on November 17, 2004.

Solon was born in Chicago, Illinois, on September 21, 1922, to Anthony and Anna Bennett. He was a graduate of Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago with a Bachelor of Science in Business and Economics.

He was preceded in death by his parents who immigrated from Aidin, Asia Minor, raised their family in Chicago, and resided in Phoenix, Arizona, at the time of their deaths. Also preceding him in death was a brother, Constantine Anthony Bennett.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 46 years, Loretta, and their three children: daughter, Leslie Bennett of Austin; sons, Chris Bennett and wife Lisa of San Francisco, California; Stephen Bennett and wife Michelle of Tampa, Florida, and their son, John Solon Bennett, known as Jack. He is also survived by his sisters, Rhea Travis of Phoenix, Arizona, and Cleio Bennett of Scottsdale, Arizona; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Until his retirement in 1986, he served as the Director of Purchases and Stores for the City of Austin. Prior to that, he was the Director of Purchasing for Overhead Door Corporation and for the State of Arizona. Solon's career in purchasing management spanned 35 years and included numerous awards, including the Albert H. Hall Memorial Award for Purchasing Excellence for contributions to the public purchasing profession from the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, where he served as National Presi-

dent and Chairman of the President's Council. He also had the honor of having an award named for him, the Solon Bennett Award for Excellence in Materials Management, given by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. It is the highest honor that NRECA's Cooperative Utilities Affiliate of the Institute for Supply Management can bestow.

He was a noted author and editor of professional handbooks, manuals, and articles on purchasing and shared his love and passion for his profession with his students as an instructor at Austin Community College and the LBJ School of Public Affairs, and as a lecturer at the College of Business Administration, The University of Texas at Austin.

His family, friends, colleagues and students knew him for his quirky sense of humor, unwavering honesty, gentleness and kindness, sense of decency and fairness, pride at being the son of immigrants and in the country of his birth, and his love of all things sweet and chocolate. He was a wonderful husband and father and was extremely proud of his new role as grandfather and of his grandson, Jack. All who knew him will miss him dearly, but most especially his wife Loretta, who devoted the last 4-1/2 years of her life with dignity and grace to caring for him as his battle with Parkinson's disease progressed.

The family wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at The Summit at Westlake Hills and the staff of Hospice Austin for their loving care during his final days.

An informal visitation for family and friends will be held throughout the day and evening on Friday, November 19, 2004, at Cook-Walden Funeral Home.

A Celebration of His Life will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 20, 2004, in the Colonial Chapel at Cook-Walden Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Austin Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation or to Hospice Austin.

Arrangements by Cook-Walden.



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