

Ridgefield Press, Thursday, June 14, 2001

Randolph Link, 52, scout leader and coach

Randolph A. Link of 98 Farmingville Road, a leader in both scouting and youth sports here, died on Wednesday morning, June 6, at Danbury Hospital after being stricken ill at home. He was 52 years old and the husband of Doris L. Conrad Link.

Randy Link was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Aug. 12, 1948, a son of the late E. Austin and Marie DeLaunay Link. He came to Ridgefield as a boy 46 years ago. He attended Farmingville School and graduated from the Carson-Long Military Academy of Philadelphia, Pa. He also studied at Western Connecticut State University in Danbury.

For the past nine years, Mr. Link was a traffic manager for Micro Powder's Inc. of Tarrytown, N.Y., an international producer of powdered chemicals used in inks, paints and other products.

Mr. Link was well known in town for his work in scouting and with youth sports. A Boy Scout leader for 15 years, he had been scoutmaster of Troop 116 for more than five years. He had just recently earned a Wood Badge, an honor given scout leaders for participating in advanced training, and had served on the Boy Scouts' district committee.

"Randy had a major role in shaping the lives and character of hundreds of youth in our community and throughout Fairfield County, and helped in no small part to make many of those boys Eagle Scouts," said Jay Lubin of Troop 76 in a letter to the editors this week. "He also set a superb example for many, many adult scout leaders to follow." Mr. Link had coached youth baseball, from Little League Tball through Babe Ruth League. "He believed in the kids' having fun — winning wasn't everything," said his wife, Doris. "He couldn't stand it when he saw some of the coaches come down on the kids for losing. He promoted enjoying the game — enjoy what you're doing and you'll work better as a team."

"He loved the scouts and he loved coaching," Mrs. Link said. "He was a great dad and a great husband."

Mr. Link was also a participant in the Connecticut organ donor program. He belonged to the Odd Fellows Lodge and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Besides his wife of 25 years, Mr. Link is survived by a son, Matthew A. Link, a daughter, Heather M. Link, and a grandson, Joey D. Link, all of Ridgefield.

Memorial services will take place on Thursday, June 21, at 10 a.m. in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 351 Main Street. Interment will be private. There are no calling hours.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 300 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT 06450.

The Kane Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.