

Obituaries

Saturday, September 21 and Monday, September 23, 1996

Cline Mann, ocean sports devotee

By Harold Morse
Star-Bulletin

John Cline Mann, a surveyor, authority on Hawaiian lands and former Lunalilo Estate trustee, died a week ago in St. Francis Hospice.

The 73-year-old kamaaina was also an ocean sports enthusiast noted for his contributions to surfboard racing.

Longtime friend Ron Sorrell, former Outrigger Canoe Club board president, recalled Mann preserved the almost dying sport.

"He created a contest, he produced it, he directed it, he judged it and he scored it," Sorrell said. "He brought the sport back to popularity (to) where it's once again booming." Another unique Mann contribution was a device to train canoe paddlers.

"Two paddlers could sit in it with paddles. The water would continue to move as opposed to dead water, and coaches could stand by and correct the paddlers' techniques," Sorrell said.

Born in Honolulu, the part-Hawaiian Mann followed a life pattern similar to his father's. His father was a surveyor and civil engineer. His maternal grandparents were prominent in Hawaiian affairs.

Mann graduated from Punahou School in 1941 and Dartmouth College with a degree in civil engineering in 1944. After Navy service, he joined his father's surveying firm.

Mann surveyed much of Hawaii and became knowledgeable on Hawaiian land boundaries and history. In 1972, he joined an engineering firm that later became Austin Tsutsumi & Associates. He retired last year.

Mann served as a Lunalilo Estate trustee from 1969 to 1993. He also was a past president and board member of Outrigger Canoe Club, serving as trustee for the Duke Kahanamoku Foundation.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. George Nottingham. Services will be at 9 a.m. Wednesday at Outrigger Canoe Club. Casual attire. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation, 2909 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu, Hawaii 96815.