

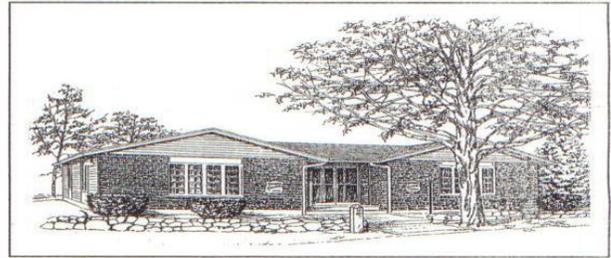
Munson - Lovetere Funeral Homes, Inc.

(203) 263-2146

www.munsonloveterefuneralhome.com



The Woodbury Funeral Home of Munson Lovetere
Main Street South • Route 6



The Southbury Funeral Home of Munson Lovetere
235 Main Street North • Route 6

In 1822, Harvey J. Linsley came to Woodbury from Branford. He purchased a building on Main Street and in the building next door he built a cabinet shop. That building still stands today as the Woodbury Funeral Home. In the 1800's the towns' cabinet maker was also its funeral director. Mr. Linsley brought with him the first horse drawn hearse ever seen in the area. In the cellar of the cabinet shop was a turnstile to which a blind horse was hitched. The lathes and sanders on the first floor were activated by the circular pattern of the horse. Mr. Linsley owned and operated a farm north of the Funeral Home which is now part of the New North Cemetery. Mr. Linsley's son James continued operating the Funeral Home/ Cabinet Shop until the year 1900 when it was sold to a man named Mr. Swan. The furniture manufacturing machinery was removed from the building shortly after. Mr. Swan stayed in Woodbury only two years and during that time the northeast room on the ground floor was made into a grocery store known as the Green Grocery.

In 1903, James D. Kimball purchased the business from Mr. Swan. Shortly thereafter William Wolff was allowed to open a barbershop on the second floor with an apartment for his family. The Green Grocery had since vacated. But the barbershop operated in the building for about 9 years until it moved to a section of Canfield Corner Pharmacy where it still operates today.

In 1928, Earle W. Munson began working for Mr. Kimball. At that time Mr. Kimball built a small building west of the Funeral Home of his furniture business which was operated by his son Kenneth. In 1933, Mr. Munson purchased the funeral business from Mr. Kimball and remodeled the building into a Funeral Home. In the early 1940's, a dentist opened a part-time office in the southwest corner of the building on the second floor. A large window was installed in the room, in front of which the dental chair was placed. The room today serves as the arrangements office. This dentist vacated the office in 10 years only to be replaced by a female

dentist, Dr. Bonney. After she closed her dentist office, the rooms on the south side of the building were remodeled into an apartment where an employee of the Funeral Home could reside. More recently the upstairs has been converted into an office, an arrangement room, and a casket selection room.

In 1950, the business became a corporation. In 1967, Mr. Munson built a facility in Southbury to better service the growing community. Joseph P. Lovetere who started working for Mr. Munson in 1964, became a partner in 1972 and the name of the business was changed from the Munson Funeral Homes to the Munson - Lovetere Funeral Homes, Inc., with facilities in both Woodbury and Southbury.

After Mr. Lovetere's death in 1987, Mr. Munson who had been semiretired assumed an active supervisory role in the Funeral Home until his death in 1991. Since his death the Funeral Home has continued as a family business, with 4 licensed Funeral Director's:

Lissa Lovetere, the late Joseph P. Lovetere's niece, has worked at the Funeral Homes since 1990. She is married to Mark D. Stone and is the mother of two children, Andrew and Evelyn.

Kevin P. Gallagher joined the Munson-Lovetere family in 2015 and lives in Naugatuck.

Chrissie Morneault joined Munson Lovetere in 2015 and lives in Torrington with her husband Jason and two daughters, Vallerie and Victoria.

Robyn Dostie Esposito, grew up in Woodbury and joined Munson Lovetere in 2015. She lives in Watertown with her three children, Chelsea, Gabrielle and Franklyn. She is happy to be serving the community in her hometown.