

November 15, 1960

## Sailmaker Passes Funeral Friday

Funeral services will be held tomorrow, Friday, at 9 o'clock with requiem Mass at the Church of St. Peter the Apostle for James A. McGuire, 87, Provincetown's last sailmaker, who died Tuesday at a rest home here. Recitation of the Rosary will be held at 8 o'clock tonight at the Nickerson Funeral Home. Interment will be in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Last able craftsman of the Cape End era of sailing vessels, Mr. McGuire was born in St. Johns, Newfoundland and came to Provincetown in 1902, when he heard that a sailmaker was wanted in a loft here. He got the job with George Washington Pettes at a starting pay of \$3 a day. Soon he had his own loft on the former Hilliards Wharf, now part of Lands End Marine Supply Company building.

"Jimmie" McGuire was highly regarded as a sailmaker and laid out and sewed the sails of many well known Grand Bankers including the Rose Dorothea, winner of the Lipton Cup in 1907, also

the Jessie Costa, the Rose Cabral and the Philomena Manta. However, the devastation wrought during the first World War among the great fleet of Grand Bank fishing schooners marked the beginning of the end of sails. Mr. McGuire then turned to making awnings and various items of canvas for the Coast Guard. His loft continued to be an attraction for visitors and artists and "Jimmie's" genial Irish personality fitted into the scene admirably.

A widower for a number of years, Mr. McGuire is survived by six children, three daughters and three sons. They are Mrs. Gertrude White of Melrose, Mrs. Eileen Cann of Philadelphia and Mrs. Kathleen Vandeborke of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, presently in Japan. His sons are James of Dover, Harry of Boston and George of Taunton. There are ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister, Mrs. John O'Flaherty and a brother, John, both of St. Johns.

He was a member of the Holy Name Society, the Knights of Columbus and the Royal Arcanum Society of New Bedford.

Here for the services are his children, Mrs. Cann, Mrs. White, Harry and James.