

FUNERAL OF CON O'NEILL

FORMER council colleagues of the late Mr. Con O'Neill, former Chairman of Limerick Co. Council joined his many friends and relatives when he was laid to rest at the cemetery in Galbally this Wednesday.

Mr. O'Neill (81), Deerpark, Galbally, died on Sunday at St. Camillus' Hospital after a short illness.

A member of the Labour Party, he served as Chairman of the Council on three occasions: 1962/63, 1968/69 and 1973/74. He was first elected to the Council in 1955 for the Kilmallock electoral area and continued to serve until 1974 when he was defeated in the local elections of that year.

As outgoing Chairman at the time, his defeat came as a great surprise.

In the preface of the Limerick County Council report for 1973/74, Mr O'Neill said that in the peculiar circumstances in which he found himself it was not easy to write a foreword for the annual report

"At the annual general meeting of the Council my



Con O'Neill.

colleagues did me the honour of electing me Chairman of the Council as they did on two previous occasions in the previous 11 years.

"I think my relationship with all members of the Council was satisfactory. Their confidence is shown in their electing me as Chairman, but this did not, unfortunately, decide the fortunes of war in local elections when I was not returned to the new council".

For one, he said who had a lifelong interest in the affairs of the council, this abrupt

severence was "a traumatic experience".

Chairman of Limerick County Council, Cllr. Eddie Wade, this week paid tribute to the late Mr. O'Neill, describing him as an outstanding chairman and public representative.

"He was a great servant to the people," he said.

A fair minded and able chairman, the late Mr. O'Neill was according to colleagues a man who made his mark on the Council and worked very hard for his constituents.

County manager, Mr. Sean Murphy, joined in the tributes to Mr. O'Neill this week and expressed deep sympathy to his family.

A peace commissioner for many years, the late Mr. O'Neill was also very involved in the local drama society

He is survived by his sons, Michael and Gerry; daughters, Mary, Peggy and Nancy. He was predeceased by his wife Ann.

His remains were removed from Fraser's Funeral Home to Galbally Church on Tuesday evening. Funeral Mass was concelebrated on Wednesday by Canon John Hennessey A.P. Galbally; Canon Denis Talbott, P.P., Galbally; Fr. Daniel Cunningham, C.C., Galbally and Fr. Richard Brown, C.C., Kilbehenny. ©Irish Newspaper Archives

O'NEILL (Deerpark, Galbally, Co. Limerick) — On March 25, 1990 (peacefully), at St. Camilus Hospital, Limerick, Cornelius J. (Con), former chairman of Limerick Co. Council. Deeply regretted by his sons, daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives and friends. R.I.P. Removal on this (Tuesday) evening from Frazer's Funeral Home at 7.30 p.m. to Galbally Church. Requiem Mass on tomorrow (Wednesday) at 11.30 a.m. Burial afterwards in local cemetery.