

# Cornelius Maloney

1853 - 1914

# Cornelius F. "Neil" Maloney

1900 - 1988

*"If he left his family nothing but his name, it is a legacy of which those who remain may well be proud."*

- Mayor Martin Scully

The Maloneys published The Waterbury Evening Democrat from its inception in 1887 until its cessation in 1946. The newspaper had a wide audience, was a leading voice of the Democratic Party in Connecticut and added another viewpoint on issues of the day.

Cornelius Maloney was born in New Britain, Connecticut on May 18, 1853. He began working in the printing business and for various newspapers until 1880 when he started The New Britain Times. In July 1881, he moved to Waterbury to join his brother, Michael, in a printing business. Soon afterward they established The Valley Democrat and on December 5, 1887 began publication of The Waterbury Evening Democrat.

Circulation increased rapidly as The Democrat reflected the character of this man who led an honorable life with no pretensions. He was a friend of mankind, giving generously to charities and showing an interest in all organizations that aimed to make Waterbury a better place. Maloney preferred to omit any derogatory material in his paper that would wound a person or family. Five of his children, E. Vincent, Angela, Margaret, Catherine and Cornelius, all worked for the paper and added to its success.

The modest, dignified gentleman was held in high public esteem and was elected to the General Assembly in 1887. The original Maloney School was named for him and the honor was extended in 1996 when the new Maloney Magnet School was dedicated.

Maloney died on January 5, 1914, a week after being struck by an automobile. The Waterbury Republican stated, "all who knew him were his admirers" and The Democrat said, "he was not guilty of a deed of meanness".

Cornelius "Neil" Maloney, his son, was born in Waterbury on February 5, 1900. He would become a Waterbury newspaperman for nearly 60 years, serving in an executive capacity for all three daily newspapers, and a respected local historian.

Maloney graduated from St. Mary's School, Crosby High School and Holy Cross College and he attended the Pulitzer School of Journalism and Columbia University. Following college he became associated with his brother, E. Vincent, in the publication of The Democrat and was its managing editor in 1943 when he was chosen city comptroller to fill a vacancy. He was elected in 1943 and 1945. After the Mayor Hayes



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corruption scandal in the 1930s the Democratic Party was looking for honest individuals with impeccable credentials. Maloney was one of them.

In 1948 he signed on with The Waterbury Republican and Waterbury American. He would become news editor of both papers and, in 1962, the executive editor. His interests included sports, especially tennis, genealogy, theater and Waterbury history. Maloney was one of the editors of the highly acclaimed Pictorial History of Waterbury, 1674-1974 and was the executive editor of The Waterbury Tercentennial book. After he retired in 1969, he continued to write feature articles and became known as Waterbury's unofficial historian.

"Neil" Maloney died on July 3, 1988. He was admired in the community whose heritage he recorded and extended.