

# Menger, descendant of famed hotel family

Theodore J. Menger, 91, was a descendant of the pioneer Menger Hotel family.

His grandfather, William A. Menger, came to Texas from Germany in 1847. The hotel opened Feb. 1, 1859, at "early candle lighting time," according to a newspaper report.

Theodore Menger died with heart failure Monday. He was the last survivor of the original H&H Coffee Co. owners. His mother, Mary Menger, was born in the Menger Hotel.

She married Dr. Rudolph W. Menger, an early San Antonio physician not related to her family, who was also a native San Antonian. Dr. Menger's father, Simon Menger, was the founder of the Menger Soap Works — the first manufacturing concern in Texas.

Theodore was the youngest boy in a family of eight children. In 1912 he became bookkeeper at the Alamo National Bank. During World War I he was a corporal in the In-

fantry. He returned to the bank after the war.

Menger resigned from the bank in 1921 to join the H&H Coffee Co. as treasurer. He remained there until 1962, when the company was sold to Continental Coffee of Chicago. He retired at that time.

"He built a home for his mother in Alamo Heights in 1937," said his nephew, Albert G. Menger of San Antonio. "He and his mother lived there with two of his brothers and a sister. None of the siblings ever married."

Survivors are four nieces, Charlotte Belcher and Barbara Ann Ernst, both of San Antonio, Rose Marie McClung of Round Rock and Mildred Holliday of Lake LBJ; and another nephew, Stephen G. Menger of Canyon Lake.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Zizik-Kearns Riebe-Saunders Funeral Chapel with the Rev. Conor McGrath officiating. Burial will be in Mission Burial Park South.