Arnold Goodman dies; civic, business leader

Arnold Goodman, the internationally-minded businessman whose interests included redevelopment work at home, died Tuesday.

Goodman, 60, taken to St. Mary’s Medical Center after he was stricken playing tennis, owned a property management and insurance firm in Racine.

He was elected chairman of the Racine Redevelopment Authority when the authority was organized in 1974 and continued as a member.

Goodman was also vice chairman of the Wisconsin Housing Finance Authority, the agency financing the 10-story McMyrn Tower apartment building under construction at 7th Street and Lake Avenue.

In Racine, he served several terms as president of the Downtown Association, was first president of Northside Redevelopment Project Inc. when it was incorporated in 1973, was on the board of the Neighborhood Housing Services Corp., was an officer of the Racine Environment Committee and was vice president of the Racine Art Association.

He was honored in Milwaukee two months ago by the National Conference of Christians and Jews for his community human relations work.

Arnold Goodman
civic leader dies

He was chairman of the regional executive board of the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, the Racine Jewish Welfare Council and the Israel Bond Drive, was on the planning group for the sixth National Conference on Christian-Jewish Relations, had been county Brotherhood Week chairman, and was a past president of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation of Racine.

Goodman was chairman of the Governor’s Commission on the United Nations and was on the board of governors of the United Nations Association U.S.A.

His travels took him to the Soviet Union in 1959, shortly after the Iron Curtain was lifted, to Israel in 1963 and to Japan in 1970.

He was a director of the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Racine and a member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Goodman, a lifetime Racine resident, graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in corporate finance in 1941, and served as a lieutenant (j.g.) in the Navy during World War II.

The property management business he owned was founded by his father, the late Julius Goodman.

Survivors include his wife, Rita, and three sons, David, Norman and Andrew. One brother, Robert, practices law in Racine.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday from Beth Israel Sinai Temple.