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Obituary of Charles LeCocq, ca. 1948

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Charles Le Cocq Rites Held Today

Funeral services were held in Bellingham this afternoon at 2 o'clock for Charles Edward Le Cocq, 49 years old, who passed away at his home at Lake Samish Monday evening following an illness of many months. Rev. George Hankamp of Lynden and Dr. Robert T. McFarlane of Bellingham conducted the services at the Harlow-Hollingsworth Funeral Home. Interment was in Greenacres Memorial Cemetery.

Le Cocq, who was a resident engineer for the state highway department, was taken ill several months ago. He was rated as an outstanding specialist in his field, and developed many new methods in road construction. In charge of the Wiser Lake fill, he saved the state many thousands of dollars by using an original plan for getting a solid roadbed over the soft peat bed.

He took a prominent part in relocation work on both Stevens and Snoqualmie Pass Highways, and on the newly proposed Cascade Pass Highway not yet completed. He took a major part in many coastal highways and bridges, including Mt. Vernon, Blanchard, Skykomish, and the beautiful bridge at Deception Pass.

A son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Le Cocq of Lynden, he came here with his parents in 1917 from Harrison, South Dakota, where he was born April 27, 1899. He graduated from the Lynden High School in 1919, and from the College of Engineering at the University of South Dakota in 1924. He was a member of the First Reformed Church of Lynden.

He had been with the Washington State highway department for 22 years. He was first stationed at Seattle, but upon being assigned to Bellingham, he built his home at Lake Samish, where he developed the finest residence property on the Lake, doing all the work of building and landscaping himself. He was a lover of nature and on his place one can find flowers that bloom almost for every month of the year. Washington officials in paying a tribute to him, pointed out that because of his retiring nature, few people recognized his many sterling qualities, but those who had learned to know him as he was, will long remember his many accomplishments and his contributions to the advancement of his state.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Le Cocq, and a son, Charles Robert, both at home, and six brothers, Dr. John F. and Dr. Edward Le Cocq, Seattle; Frank and Gideon M. Le Cocq, Everett, and Ralph B. and Irwin Le Cocq of Lynden.