

HE DELIVERED FOR BAYONNE

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The life of Jerome Rose has been a life well lived. Born on Sept. 11, 1913, the soon-to-be centenarian says that he wouldn't change a thing about the last century.

"I'm just going to keep on living the way I have been for the last 100 years," said Rose.

At 99, Rose is still able to discuss his early years with staggering recall — son of real estate developer and insurance salesman Julius Rose, Jerome attended Bayonne High School, where he was class president four years, and then attended Rutgers.

After graduation, Rose worked for the Bayonne Times for three years before working for his father's real estate firm and attending night school at Mercer Beasley School of Law.

Rose passed the state bar exam in 1937, but continued to work for his father's real estate firm. During his time there, Rose had a hand in many developments in Bayonne, including the Jewish Community Center, a handful of low-income housing complexes and several one-family homes near Newark Bay and 35th Street.

However, Rose says he most enjoyed working as a lawyer and that some of the best days of his life were spent at his firm, Rose & Rose (now Rose & Zucker) on Broadway.

"I loved it," said Rose. "I looked forward to going to



ASHLEE ESPINAL JOURNAL PHOTO

JEROME ROSE of Bayonne will turn 100 years old in September.

the office every day because there was always something interesting to do."

Among his many positions, Rose was the president of the Jewish Community Council and the Council for Jews and Christians, vice president of the Bayonne Hospital Foundation and the Jewish Old-Age Home, chairman of the Industrial Commission, vice chairman of the Bayonne Housing and Rehabilitation Authority, and counsel to the Bayonne Planning Board.

Rose says that his involvement with groups like these are among his greatest and most cherished accomplishments.

"I feel I've accomplished a lot in my lifetime because I was civic-minded and belonged to many organizations," said Rose.

Rose retired in 1992, at the young age of 79, after decades of contributing to the community that he loved.

Rose now lives in Winchester Gardens in Maplewood, but still has strong ties to the community through his old law practice, which is now under the leadership of his son, Stephen.

Rose said that when Sept. 11 rolls around, his two children, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren will be helping him celebrate his 100th birthday, which is another in a long list of impressive accomplishments.

"My children are making a party for me at the Maplewood Country Club," said Rose. "My children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and some of my old friends are going to be there."