Anthony Wallace, 79, Ex-Hartford Legislator

SOUTHINGTON, Conn., June 2 (AP) - Anthony E. Wallace, a former Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives and a retired utility executive, died Friday at his home here. He was 79 years old.

He was elected to the House in 1956 as a Republican from Simsbury and was re-elected twice. He was an assistant leader in the 1959 session and was elected Speaker in 1961. He was narrowly defeated for the Republican nomination for governor in 1962.

He was a former president of the Connecticut Light and Power Company and executive vice president of the Northeast Utilities Service Company.

He was born in Stamford, Conn. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Los Angeles and later attended the Harvard Business School.

He is survived by his wife, the former Helen Barton; two sons, Richard A., of Barkhamsted, Conn., and Anthony Jr., of New Milford, Conn., and three grandchildren.