



Name: Erastus Corning the Second

Years: October 7, 1909 – May 28, 1983

Residence: Albany, New York

Brief Biography: Erastus Corning II was born in Albany on October 7, 1909. Both his father and grandfather served in New York Politics which made it seem like he was destined for a bright political career. He went to and graduated from Yale University. After that he went into politics and was elected to the New York State Assembly and the New York Senate in 1935 and 1936 respectfully. Later, Erastus would go and win straight eleven terms for mayor of Albany. Some would consider him one of the last political machines that kept guaranteeing elections. He was drafted during his term of mayor and went to fight in World War 2. He would win many awards and come back a war hero. This would help him win even more elections in the future. Sadly, Erastus Corning II passed away on May 28, 1983 at the age of 73; he was still in office at the time. Due to his long service with Albany, the city renamed its tallest building the Erastus Corning Tower.

Major Achievements:

- Won elections to the New York State Assembly and Senate
- Was mayor of Albany for ten straight terms till his death

- Served in the military in World War II, and was rewarded by becoming a member of the Order of Orange-Nassau, a very high honor in Netherlands due to a distinguished service there in the war.
- Has the tallest building in Albany named after him due to his long term as mayor and service to the city.

For more Information: Seek more information out from Biography of Erastus Corning 2nd at Albany County Hall of Records

Resources: Paul Grondahl. *Mayor Corning: Albany Icon, Albany Enigma*. Albany, New York: Suny Press, 2007.

By Jenn Delisle