

Moshe Arens, Israeli Statesman and Ex- Defense Minister, Dies at 93

By Isabel Kershner

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JERUSALEM — Moshe Arens, the Israeli politician and statesman who was one of the last of his country’s founding generation of right-wing, liberal Zionists, and who held top posts but never achieved his greatest aspirations, died on Monday at his home in Savyon, Israel. He was 93.

His son-in-law, Dr. Itzhak Fried, said Mr. Arens had died in his sleep.

A former member of the Irgun militia and a young leader of the revisionist Betar Youth Movement, Mr. Arens remained until his last days a beacon of Israel’s ideological right. After helping to found the Herut (Freedom) party, he reached the top echelons of its outgrowth, the Likud, and was seen by many as the natural heir of the conservative prime ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir.

Mr. Arens served three times as defense minister and also as foreign minister and as Israel’s ambassador to the United States.

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