

SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE



LEGISLATIVE MEMORIAL SERVICE

JANUARY 21, 2010

• **JOINT-SELECT COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS**

- Senator Al Novstrup, Co-Chair
- Senator Craig Tieszen
- Senator Kathy Miles
- Representative Roger Hunt, Co-Chair
- Representative Nick Moser
- Representative H. Paul Dennert



JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Thursday, January 21, 2010 3:00 p.m. (CT)
House Chamber

Opening Remarks	Representative Roger Hunt
Opening Prayer	Representative Nick Moser
“The Lord is my Shepard”, Allen Pote	*Pierre Riggs High School Chamber Choir
Joint Memorial Resolution	Senator Kathy Miles
Reading of the Names for Placing of the Roses	Senator Al Novstrup Senator Craig Tieszen

Dean W. Anderson	<i>Bryant</i>	<i>House, 1981-1989</i>
Louis K. Freiberg Jr.	<i>Rapid City</i>	<i>House, 1963-1966</i>
Max Gruenwald	<i>Milbank</i>	<i>House, 1969-1970</i>
Helena Brakel Hassard	<i>Hot Springs</i>	<i>House, 1995-1998</i>
Thomas L. Hennies	<i>Rapid City</i>	<i>House, 1999-2006</i>
Bernie D. Kopecky	<i>Aberdeen</i>	<i>House, 1969-1976</i>
L.L. “George” Means	<i>Yankton</i>	<i>House, 1985-1990</i>
Royal J. “Bud” Wood	<i>Warner</i>	<i>House, 1967-1992</i>

“Alleluia”, Ralph Manuel	*Pierre Riggs High School Chamber Choir
Benediction	Representative H. Paul Dennert
Closing Remarks	Representative Roger Hunt

*Pierre Riggs High School Students directed by Ms. Emily Danger, Vocal Director.

NOTE: The following biographical information has been extrapolated from the Biographical Directory of the South Dakota Legislature (1989) and the South Dakota Legislative Manual (“Blue Book”) (various editions) and is current as of the publication dates.



Family members are cordially invited to a reception hosted by the Capitol Club following the Legislative Memorial Service.

The reception will be held in the Speaker's Lobby (behind the House Chamber).



WHEREAS, the Great Ruler of the Universe has ordered a final adjournment in the lives of eight former members of the South Dakota Legislature, namely: *Dean Anderson, Louis Freiberg Jr., Max Gruenwald, Helena Hassard, Thomas Hennies, Bernie Kopecky, George Means and Bud Wood* and

WHEREAS, in the lives of all these eminent public servants there was noted a profound urgency in an unselfish manner, with trials and vicissitudes often far outweighing honors, but with a consciousness that here in a land of freedom the dignity of the individual is supreme, that justice must be dispensed, and that only by eternal vigilance and unrelenting effort can self-government of a people be preserved; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we humbly honor the memory of those who have thus contributed to the orderly process of government under the Constitution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fifth Session of the Legislature of the State of South Dakota duly convened in recess session in recognition of the useful lives and unflinching devotion to the interests of the State of South Dakota, as well as the rectitude of thought and action and fidelity to the highest principles of American citizenship by these honorable people, that the Senate and the House of Representatives do now pause in their labors out of respect for the memory of their late fellow associates in the functions of government, and note that in their passing, the state they have served so well has suffered a distinct loss, and though their labors have ceased and they have been laid to rest, the people of this great state have benefited greatly from the services rendered by them and they have left upon the sands of time an inspiring record of devotion to their fellow citizens under the guiding hand of Almighty God; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be printed in the Journals of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fifth Session of the Legislature of the State of South Dakota, now assembled this 21st day of January, 2010, at Pierre, South Dakota.

Dennis Daugaard
President of the Senate

Tim Rave
Speaker of the House

Trudy Evenstad
Secretary of the Senate

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House



Dean Wesley Anderson

Born: May 14, 1927, Erwin, SD

Married: Marilyn Lowe, June 27, 1948.

Children: Debra and Lisa.

Lutheran. Republican. Attended grade school and high school at Erwin Consolidated School. He graduated in 1945. He married Marilyn Lowe on June 27, 1948 at Bryant. They started their lives together on a farm east of Bryant where they farmed their entire lives. In 1989 he was appointed as State Executive Director of the Agriculture Stabilization Conservation Service of South Dakota. He served in the position until 1992. In 1995 he was once again called public office, serving as Secretary of Agriculture for South Dakota until 1997. He was a Hamlin County Extension Board Member, President of N.E. Area Extension Boards, Director of Federal Land Bank, Watertown, a member of the Stock holders Advisory Committee of FLB in Omaha, NE. He was Secretary and President of Farmers Elevator Co. and was President for the Bryant Community Development Corporation.

House, 1981-1989



Louis K. Freiberg Jr.

Born: October 13, 1925

Children: Michael and Kevin

Catholic. Republican. South Dakota School of Agriculture, State College Brookings; Creighton University L.L.B. WWII served in the Army Air Corps as a Navigator, discharged in 1946 as 1st Lieutenant. Pennington County Republican Chairman, 1956 & 1958; Co. Chairman of the Pennington County Mundt for Senate Club, 1960; a precinct committeeman for 6 years. Member and Secretary-Treasurer, South Dakota Cement Commission 1958-1959; Secretary-Treasurer, South Dakota Reclamation Association, 1952-1954; Knights of Columbus, Elks, American Legion and South Dakota and American Bar Association.

House, 1963-1966



Max Gruenwald

Born: November 4, 1931, Mitchell, SD.

Married: Dona Olson, 1954.

Children: Lane, Mark and Shari

Protestant. Republican. Corsica High School, 1949; Yankton College; University of South Dakota, 1956, BA Government and a Law Degree. Navy in the late 2950s at Pearl Harbor Naval Station and Hickman Air Force Base. Honorably discharged as a Lieutenant Junior Grade, 1959. Practiced law in Milbank from January, 1960 to 2009. Served as attorney for the Milbank School District for 30 years, Milbank City Attorney for 21 years; Served two terms as Grant County State's Attorney; President of the South Dakota State's Attorney Association and chairman of the State Bar Ethics Committee. Appointed as a member of the Board of Regents by Governor George Mickelson in 1987, and served 10 years, including a term as board president. President of the Milbank Chamber of Commerce; Kiwanis; Milbank-Grant County Industrial Development Corp.; Milbank High School Educational Foundation; Masons; South Dakota Public Broadcasting; Grant County Historical Society; Pheasants forever; Milbank Golden Living Center Advisory Board ; Dakota State Bank Board of Directors.

House, 1969-1970



Helena B. Hassard

Born: December 18, 1930, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Married: George Hassard.

Protestant. Republican. As a teenager, she experienced the hardship of five years under Nazi German occupation and dictatorship. After WWII she completed college in the Netherlands, majoring in languages, five of which she could read, write and speak. She minored in sciences. She also completed certification for modeling from French Etoile.

She worked for several companies as a secretary and was executive secretary to the managing director of the main contractor that built the Sydney Opera House in Sydney, Australia, and oil shipment headquarters in Abadan, Iran. During construction of the camouflaged underground nuclear work area for the U. S. Air Force at Soesterberg, Holland, Hassard was the only CIA-approved recording secretary for the project. In 1961, Hassard moved to Oslo, Norway and became an executive secretary at Philips Electronics. She also modeled clothing for an Oslo department store. In 1964, she moved to Baton Rouge, La., and worked for Norwegian Veritas Maritime Classification and Insurance Society. She became manager for United States, Canada and Central America. She was appointed Honorary Norwegian Vice- Council for the Gulf of Mexico area by the Norwegian government in 1970. In 1974, she met Dr. George H. Hassard in Houston, whom she married in 1975. In 1990 she became an American citizen.

House, 1995-1998



Thomas L. Hennies

Born: August 11, 1939, Wagner, SD.

Married: Ann, 1963.

Children: Shannon and Shane.

Lutheran. Republican. Rapid City High School, 1957; BA, Black Hills State University, 1975; MS, University of South Dakota, 1978. Rapid City Police Department, 1965-2000 and was Rapid City's longest serving chief of police, from May 17 1984 to May 31, 2000. US Army, 1958-1960, served in Japan and Korea. 1992 Black Hills Notable; Friend of Education by SDEA/NEA, 2002; President, SD Municipal League; VFW; Rapid City Chamber Diplomat; President, SD Police Chiefs; Graduate of FBI Academy; Delegate to Republican State Convention 2002 and 2004. Chairman of the Rapid City Indian White Relations Committee, which eventually became Project 2000 and was recognized by President Bush in 1991. Helped to establish the Rapid City Community Care Center.

House, 1999-2006



Bernie D. Kopecky

Born: March 28, 1931, Highmore, SD.

Married: Helen Vetch, June 20, 1955.

Children: Vicky, Sandra, Kathleen, Gregory.

Catholic. Democrat. Attended Westport Grade School and graduated from Westport High School in 1949. Entered the US Marines in 1951. While serving active duty in the Korean War, he received 3 Purple Hearts. He later received the Silver Star from Congressman Tim Johnson. Bernie was a Marine Corporal at the time of his honorable discharge in 1953.

Bernie married Helen Vetch June 20, 1955 in Aberdeen and they continued to make Aberdeen their life long home.

Bernie started working for the Brown County Sheriffs Department serving as a Deputy Sheriff and later was elected Brown County Sheriff. In 1968, Bernie started his 30 year career selling real-estate. Together, Bernie and Helen started their own real-estate and brokerage business which they operated for many years. Bernie was a member of the Sheriff Association serving as President in 1963. House of Representatives Minority Leader, 1970 to 1972. He was a member of the Realtor Association serving as President in 1979. He also received the Realtor of the Year Award several times during his career. Bernie was a member of the Drift Busters Club and served as President. He was also an active member of Elks Lodge, Moose Lodge and the VFW. Bernie loved cooking. One special highlight was cooking chili in Washington DC for all the Congressman, and cooking for the South Dakota Legislators in Pierre.

House, 1969-1976



L.L. (George) Means

Born: February 1, 1919, Carthage, SD.

Married: Kathryn M. Berry

Children: Berry, James, Barbara

Church of Christ. Republican. Yankton High School; Yankton College, B.A., 1941; Self-employed Dry Cleaning, 1943-1957; 1960, George and Kay opened and operated George Means Fine Apparel for Men. Their son Jim became a partner and subsequently bought the business. Member of Board of Sioux Falls Air Base. Yankton City Commissioner, 1974-1977; Mayor of Yankton, 1976-1977; Chairman of Sacred Heart Hospital Board of Directors; Delegate to State Republican Convention; Yankton College Alumni Service Award; Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce.

House, 1985-1990



Royal “Bud” J. Wood

Born: March 28, 1922, Warner, SD.

Married: Dorothy M. Lowitz, June 15, 1947.

Children: James, Bonnie, Peggy and Amy.

Lutheran. Republican. Warner High School; Northern Normal. Serving the people of Brown County and South Dakota was of utmost importance. Bud was a vibrant and caring politician . Bud served the people of South Dakota for 26 years. Member of the Legislative Research Council Executive Board, serving as vice chairman twice. He served as assistant majority leader as well as Speaker of the House of Representatives. He acted as governor for one day while both the governor and lieutenant governor were out of the state. He also worked on the Presidential Task Force for presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. Bush. He was one of the area’s most recognizable auctioneers, serving over 25 years at the Hub City Livestock Auction; Member of the Board of directors of the South Dakota Wheat Growers; Warner Elevator Board.

House, 1967-1992



South Dakota Public Broadcasting provided a live audio Webcast of the 2010 Legislative Memorial Service (at the Legislature's homepage on the Internet). This audio Webcast will be archived for future reference. You may access the Webcast at the address below.

<http://legis.state.sd.us/sessions/2010/index.aspx>