

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Powers,
Joseph B. - Represented Blacks Hawk and Butler counties

1. Birthday and place 1827 Worcester, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place

Jennie E.

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Admitted to the bar in 1859; member of the Dubuque Bar Association

B. Civic responsibilities

C. Profession Lawyer; district attorney for 9th Judicial District

4. Church membership

5. Sessions served 11th and 12th General Assemblies 1866 and 1868

6. Public Offices

A. Local Adm Jails city attorney; Dubuque alderman

B. State Trustee of the Anna Elkin's Orphaned Home

C. National

7. Death 25 Oct 1905 Dubuque, Iowa

8. Children Nora; Jennie; Kate; Jessie

9. Names of parents

tion of the 7,000
 ted by the com-
 om the east and
 naha, where they
 ome time last
 itative for the
 er Manager, I.
 t will occupy
 t present we are
 northward of the
 is the intention
 southward from
 nes, including the
 ve attention. No
 mpt to make rap-
 is to inspect the
 ill see that going
 inspection would
 ul. It is the pur-
 lves regarding the
 k with the view of
 oints where need-
 ergencies of the
 ther. The roadway
 as been found to
 lition. We expect
 metime tonight.
 leave Omaha to-
 passing through
 evening." After
 rain, the engine
 d and water. Bert
 remained here
 s. Vice President
 al Manager Rawn
 advantage of the
 it that portion of
 o the depot. Re-
 ations, Mr. Rawn
 Central people
 in their affections
 int of the volume
 enger traffic it
 east of the best
 population on the
 of the city are
 on of this record
 o entertain a par-
 s I assure you the
 agement is pleas-
 ad occasion, some
 ver the station re-
 vazed at the show-
 loo. Oh, yes, I am
 fine manufacturing
 bas'is of its mar-
 flattering prosper-
 n tained a wish
 terloo and person-
 manufacturing in-
 me is so fully oc-
 thus far been un-
 desire."

strength and he was permitted to leave the hospital yesterday morning.

JUDGE POWERS PASSES AWAY

Former Prominent Blackhawk County Attorney Passes Away at his Home in Dubuque.

HAD BEEN ILL FOR SOME TIME

Was Former Senator From This County and a Highly Respected Citizen.

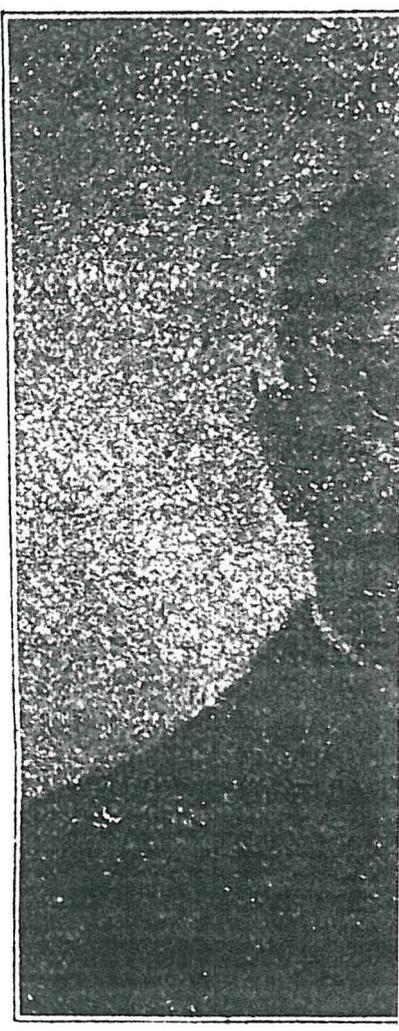
The many Waterloo friends of Judge J. B. Powers were greatly surprised and grieved to hear of his death which occurred at Dubuque on Wednesday evening. It was but a few weeks ago that Judge Powers was visiting in this city and he then looked and felt as hearty as he has at any time during the past few years.

Judge Powers was for years a prominent legal light and in political circles in this county and always held a place at the head of everything for the benefit of Black Hawk county. He was the father of Mrs. C. W. Chapman of this city and numbered his friends by the score. Concerning the death the Dubuque Globe-Journal of last evening had the following to say:

Judge J. B. Powers died at his home Wednesday night about 11:30 o'clock. Death was the result of a sickness that manifested itself last year in an attack of la grippe from which he never rallied completely, though he appeared regularly at his office until a month or two ago. He failed rapidly the last week or two and for days before his demise hovered between life and death.

Judge Powers was one of the pioneer lawmakers of Iowa, a member of one of the early legislatures and a prominent member of the Black-

The sixteenth annual convention of the Iowa Epworth League started in this city yesterday and all day long and long into the night last night delegates to the convention poured into the city on every train. It is considered that there was over six hundred delegates in attendance at the convention last evening and today the number will be brought close to one thousand if the estimates of the loc-



PROF.
 of Mt. Pleasant, State President
 wo

committee and the state officers is correct.

The convention is one of the latest to be held in this city this year and the streets are crowded with young ladies and young men members of the league who are arriving to attend the meetings of the convention. A class of young people excelled where are the guests of Waterloo

...and person
 manufacturing in-
 time is so fully oc-
 e thus far been un-
 e desire."
 he special train was
 perintendent of the
 . Ford was formerly
 an it of the Rock
 ies, being one of the
 M. Hobbs, then sup-
 Iowa division, but
 ge "brass collar" as
 esident. Another old
 officer was C. L.
 superintendent of
 n, but now superin-
 inois Central at Car-
 reer William Yordy
 ndeville brought the
 and Engineer H. P.
 ox, and Conductor
 Ft. Dodge. The
 ing the party were:
 4th Vice President,
 neral Manager, Chi-
 Chief Engineer, Chi-
 sst. Chief Engineer,
 General Superinten-
 er Agent, St. Louis.
 to Asst. Chief En-
 t, Signal Engineer,
 Superintendent, Chi-
 Superintendent, Fort
 upt., Dubuque, Ia.
 ot., Freeport, Ill.
 Supt., Clinton, Ills.
 Supt., Mattoon, Ills.
 ipt., Carbondale, Ills.
 upt., Fulton, Ky.
 loadmaster, Chicago.
 oadmaster, Freeport.
 Roadmaster, Clinton,
 Roadmaster, Dubu-
 , Roadmaster, Louis-
 dmaster, Fulton, Ky.
 Roadmaster, Water

...RS CASE.
 eted Their Work on
 s Yesterday.
 e was offered in the
 of Waterloo case yes-
 o'clock the attorney

the last week or two and for days be-
 fore his demise hovered between life
 and death.

Judge Powers was one of the
 pioneer lawmakers of Iowa, a member
 of one of the early legislatures and a
 prominent member of the Black-
 hawk county bar for many years. He
 was a resident of that county when
 elected district attorney, and it was
 while serving in this position that he
 made his reputation throughout
 eastern Iowa. After leaving his offi-
 cial position he settled in Dubuque as
 a member of the firm of Powers, Lacy
 & Robinson, which later became
 Powers, & Lacy and still later
 Powers, Lacy & Brown. Judge Powers
 retired from the firm a few years ago
 and continued to practice law until
 disabled by his final sickness.

Throughout his residence in Dubu-
 que Judge Powers took an active inter-
 est in public affairs. He was one
 of the organizers of the Citizens' party
 in 1893 and that year was elected
 alderman from the Fourth ward. He
 made an excellent record in the coun-
 cil. He was a prominent member of
 the Citizens' Reform club, had a part
 in the movement for municipal pur-
 chase of the water plant, and was at
 the time of his death one of the trust-
 ees of the plant. His last public ap-
 pearance was made at the Dubuque
 Bar association's meeting to take
 action on the death of ex-Mayor
 Stewart, on which occasion he was one
 of the principal speakers.

Judge Powers was born in Worces-
 ter, Oswego county, New York. He
 came west when a young man and set-
 tled at Cedar Falls, where he resided
 for a number of years, during which
 time he was elected senator from
 Blackhawk county for two consecu-
 tive terms. Later he removed to Wa-
 terloo, where he resided eight years,
 coming to Dubuque twenty years ago.
 He is survived by his wife and three
 daughters, Mrs. Charles Chapman of
 Waterloo, Mrs. Harry Orrick and Miss
 Katharine of this city.

The remains will be brought to
 Cedar Falls on the 4:39 train Satur-
 day afternoon. Burial will be at Fair-
 view cemetery there. Rev. G. H.
 Birney will conduct a short service at
 the cemetery. Judge Powers was at
 one time a law partner of Hon. H. C.
 Hemenway of Cedar Falls.

The active pall bears will be named
 from among his friends in Waterloo.
 The honorary pall bearers will be
 selected from among the older resi-
 dents of Cedar Falls.

Mrs. Alma Sessions McDowell of
 Grundy Center is visiting with friends

est to be held in this city this year
 and the streets are crowded with
 young ladies and young men members
 of the league who are arriving to at-
 tend the meetings of the convention.
 A class of young people excelled no-
 where are the guests of Waterloo, a
 class that is very cream of the na-
 tion's youth and the doers of much
 good in this world of sin.

The Epworth League is the well-
 known young people's society connect-
 ed with the Methodist churches the
 world over and affiliating with Chris-
 tian work wherever found. The Ep-
 worth League is particularly strong
 in Iowa. Unlike most churches the
 Methodist church does not have a
 young people's society that is affiliat-
 ed with all the young people's socie-
 ties of the various churches though
 the work is the same. The Iowa mem-
 bers of the league are numbered by
 the thousands and their good work is
 sung with praise everywhere.

Leaguers Welcome.

Waterloo welcomes the Epworth Lea-
 guers of Iowa to the city and though
 the weather is not the best still it is
 trusted that the attendance will
 reach its highest mark and that the
 convention will be alive with good
 things done for humanity and for the
 good of the league itself.

Yesterday's Program.

The delegates began arriving in the
 city Wednesday night and yesterday
 morning and during the day registra-
 tion of delegates and the assigning of
 quarters to them took a good part of



W. J. TUTT
 of Des Moines, State Treasurer of the

Ref
F
622
.G92
v.4

1877
73
v.4

HISTORY OF IOWA

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

FOUR VOLUMES

By BENJAMIN F. GUE

*Illustrated with Photographic Views of the Natural Scenery of
the State, Public Buildings, Pioneer Life, Etc.*

WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF NOTABLE MEN AND WOMEN OF IOWA

VOLUME IV
IOWA BIOGRAPHY



SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA

7864

THE CENTURY HISTORY COMPANY
41 LAFAYETTE PLACE
NEW YORK CITY

tute at Dubuque. From there he went to Plattsville, Wisconsin, where he was principal of an academy for many years. In 1859 he was elected Superintendent of Public Instruction for Wisconsin, serving six years. In 1864 he was chosen superintendent of schools in Chicago where he remained thirteen years, accomplishing much in the organization and unification of the system. In 1878 he was elected President of the Iowa State University, serving until 1887.

"In his educational work Dr. Pickard emphasized the acquisition of knowledge, not for its own sake, but for the sake of life and character. He led the young to seize upon ideals and to hold and cherish them."

In 1894 Bowdoin College conferred upon him the degree of LL. D. Dr. Pickard was for some time president of the State Historical Society and contributed many valuable papers for the *Historical Record* and the *Annals of Iowa*, in addition to those for educational works. In 1900 he removed to Portland, Maine.

CHARLES POMEROY was born in Meriden, Connecticut, September 3, 1825. He received a good education, studied law and began practice in his native town. In 1855 he came to Iowa and located at Boonesboro, in Boone County. The people of that frontier settlement were poor and peaceable and there was little business for lawyers. Mr. Pomeroy was an active Republican and being an eloquent public speaker soon became well known. In 1860 he was one of the presidential electors and when Lincoln became President, Mr. Pomeroy was appointed Receiver of the United States Land Office at Fort Dodge. In 1868 he was the Republican candidate for Congress in the old Sixth District and was elected. He served but one term, being defeated for renomination. He remained in Washington, becoming a claim agent and died there February 11, 1890.

ASBURY B. PORTER was born in the State of Kentucky, in the year 1808. He removed to Iowa, making his home at Mount Pleasant where he was engaged in the mercantile business when the Civil War began. He first entered the service as major of the First Iowa Infantry, serving with distinguished ability at the Battle of Wilson's Creek. In October, 1861, he was appointed colonel of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry and served until the 8th of March when he was dismissed from the service by order of the President. The cause of his dismissal is not given in the published reports of the Adjutant General's Office.

JOSEPH B. POWERS was born in Worcester, New York, in 1837. He was educated in the common schools and at Mexico Seminary. He studied law, was admitted to the bar and in 1860 came to Iowa. He was city attorney for Cedar Falls, and in 1865 was elected to the State Senate on the Republican ticket, serving in the Eleventh and Twelfth General

Assemblies, and as chairman of the judiciary committee in the session of 1868. At the close of his term in the Senate Mr. Powers was elected District Attorney for the Ninth Judicial District, serving by reëlections for ten years.

ALFRED N. POYNEER was born in Connecticut in 1831 where he was reared on a farm and received his early education. In 1861 he removed to Iowa, locating on a farm in Tama County where the remainder of his life was spent. He took an active interest in public affairs and was a member of the Republican party. In 1881 he was elected to the State Senate from the district composed of the counties of Tama and Poweshiek. He served in this position for eight years and was one of the influential members of that body. In 1889 he was the Republican candidate for Lieutenant-Governor and was elected, while his associate on the ticket for Governor was defeated. After serving two years as President of the Senate, Governor Poyneer was appointed one of the commissioners to revise the revenue laws of the State. He died at Montour, August 28, 1897.

GILBERT B. PRAY was born at Michigan City, Indiana, April 27, 1847. His father located at Webster City, Iowa, in 1856, where the son received his education in the public schools. He enlisted in the Sixteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in 1864, participated in the Battle of Nashville and in General Sherman's campaigns. At the close of the war he entered the law office of Judge D. D. Chase, pursuing his studies three years and was admitted to the bar in 1868, then entering upon the practice of his profession. In 1882 he was elected Clerk of the Supreme Court, holding the position for twelve years by successive reëlections. He served many years on the Republican State Central Committee, and was twice chairman, conducting important political campaigns successfully. In 1886 in association with Ex-Governor Frank D. Jackson and Sidney A. Foster and other gentlemen, he assisted in organizing the Royal Mutual Union Life Insurance Company at Des Moines, of which he was chosen treasurer. In 1897 he was appointed by President McKinley Surveyor-General of Alaska, but declined. He was soon after appointed a special agent of the Indian Bureau and entered upon the duties of the office.

HENRY O. PRATT was born in Foxcroft, Maine, February 11, 1838. He was educated at the academy of his native village and at Harvard, where he graduated in the Law Department. Mr. Pratt removed to Iowa in 1862, enlisted as a private in the Union army and served through the War of the Rebellion. He returned to Charles City where he entered upon the practice of law. In 1868 he was elected to the Iowa Legislature on the Republican ticket and reëlected at the close of his first term. He

* KF
354
.I6
E2
1907

4487

1907
261

THE
COURTS AND LEGAL PROFESSION
OF
IOWA
v.l.
VOLUME I.

HON. CHESTER C. COLE, HISTORIAN
HON. E. C. EBERSOLE, EDITOR

10527a

ILLUSTRATED

CHICAGO, ILL.
H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.
1907

Code in 1873. He became one of the leading lawyers of his district and a most substantial and worthy citizen.

Lyman A. Ellis came to Iowa a little later than Mr. Merrill, coming from Vermont, where he received a good academic education and pursued the study of the law. He located at Lyons in Clinton county and began the practice of the law, wherein he evinced much ability and acumen, and his success was such as to attract the attention of the people of his district. He was, in 1865, elected district attorney of the Seventh judicial district, wherein he attained a very high reputation as a prosecutor, so that his constituents were unwilling to allow him to retire from that office, and he continued to serve until 1880, with marked acceptability and great success. He was afterwards elected from his county to the state senate, and served a full term of four years therein. Mr. Ellis was a very close, careful and successful lawyer.

Joseph B. Powers was born in New York, where he obtained a common school and academic education and also studied law. He came to Iowa in 1860 and located at Cedar Falls and engaged in the practice of the law, securing many friends and clients. Shortly after, he was made city attorney for Cedar Falls, and at the expiration of that office, in 1865, he was elected to the house of representatives of the general assembly of Iowa, wherein he served so faithfully and efficiently that he was re-elected, and his legislative ability secured him the prominent position of chairman of the judiciary committee in the house during his last term. He was elected district attorney for the Ninth judicial district, in which he served so well, faithfully and successfully, that he was continued for ten years or more in the same office. Mr. Powers was a very faithful, painstaking lawyer, and attained a high reputation as such.

Samuel Murdock was much older when he came to Iowa than the several lawyers we have last mentioned.

620
385

Ref.
★
F
620
385

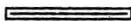
Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa

Belonging to the First and Second
Generations, with Anecdotes and
Incidents Illustrative of the Times

By

EDWARD H. STILES

For many years a member of the Iowa Bar; member of its House of Representatives, 1863-1864; member of its Senate, 1865-1866; Reporter of its Supreme Court, 1867-1875; author of Complete Digest of its Decisions from the earliest Territorial period to the 56th Iowa Reports.



"In old age alone we are masters of a treasure of which we cannot be deprived, the only treasure we can call our own. The pleasures of memory and the retrospect of the varied images which in an active life have floated before the mind, compensate, and more than compensate, for the alternate pleasures and cares of active life."—SIR ARCHIBALD ALLISON.

"Personal anecdotes, when characteristic, greatly enliven the pages of a biography."—SAMUEL SMILES.

~~34709~~ a

DES MOINES
THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
1916

83439

the general practice. As is well said of him by one of his fellow townsmen and professional brethren, William Graham, "He was a man of great industry, strictest integrity, fine executive ability, thorough and accurate in his knowledge of law, and forceful in the presentation of his views, both to court and jury." His intense application to the duties placed upon him undoubtedly shortened his life. As was said at his funeral—he fell, "cut like a diamond with its own dust." He died sincerely lamented at Dubuque in 1908.

*Joseph B. Powers, Benjamin W. Lacy, Edward McCeney, Frederick O'Donnell,
John H. O'Niell.*

Joseph B. Powers and myself were fellow Senators of the Eleventh General Assembly in 1866. We were then both young. He died in 1905, and I am left to say a few words regarding him. He was a splendid man, a useful legislator and an able lawyer. He was then a resident of and represented Blackhawk County, while I represented that of Wapello. He was regarded one of the conservative, safe and sane members of the Senate. He was wise and practical, and was always listened to with attention.

He was born in Worcester, New York, in 1827. He received an academical education, and after studying law and being admitted to the bar, came to Iowa in 1859. He attained an excellent standing at the bar in a comparatively short period, and was elected City Attorney for Cedar Falls, Blackhawk County. He was chosen one of the first Trustees of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home. In 1865 he was elected to the State Senate, and served in the Eleventh and Twelfth General Assemblies—in the last as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, his appointment to which evinces the regard in which his legal abilities were held. At the close of his term in the Senate, he was elected District Attorney for the Ninth Judicial District, and at the end of his term was re-elected to the same office. In the Seventies he removed to Dubuque, and became known as one of the leading lawyers of that part of the State. He first became associated with Frank Robinson and Benjamin W. Lacy, under the firm name of Powers, Robinson & Lacy. After the retirement of Mr. Robinson, Glenn Brown was taken into the firm, which then became Powers, Lacy & Brown. After retiring from that firm, Mr. Powers continued in the practice alone until his death.

Benjamin W. Lacy was a native of eastern New York. He studied law in Washington with his uncle, Judge Willoughby. After coming to Dubuque, he entered the office of Adams & Robinson, and was afterward admitted to the firm. A daughter of Mr. Robinson became his wife.

In 1880 he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial District, but resigned in 1884 to enter the firm of Powers, Robinson & Lacy, referred to in the preceding sketch, and after the death of Mr. Robinson, he and Mr. Powers

to my home in South Pasadena and grant me a conversational interview regarding some of the early lawyers of Blackhawk County, which was taken down at the time by my stenographer, and from which I extract the data referred to.

Sylvester Bagg, I became acquainted with while he was on the bench some forty-five years ago. He was of striking appearance, large, rather corpulent, light hair, light complexion, and possessed of very sociable qualities. He impressed me as a man of decided ability. Mr. Allen says he came from Elyria, Ohio, to Waterloo, in 1857. Soon thereafter, he and Mr. Allen entered into partnership under the firm name of Bagg & Allen, which will be frequently found in the law reports of his period. He brought with him a large library, office furniture, and an excellent reputation as a lawyer and man. In the spring of 1863 he was appointed post quartermaster, with his office at Sioux City, where he remained until the spring of 1866, Mr. Allen carrying on the practice under the firm name in the meantime. During the absence of Judge Bagg, O. C. Miller studied law in the office of Bagg & Miller, was admitted to the bar, and on the return of Judge Bagg, was taken in as a partner under the firm name of Bagg, Allen & Miller. Mr. Bagg was subsequently elected Judge of the Circuit Court. Of him, Mr. Allen says:

He was a man of excellent character, sterling integrity, generous to a fault, and a favorite with everybody with whom he came in contact. He was a good lawyer, successful practitioner, and made an excellent judge. After he retired from the bench he removed to Minneapolis and entered upon the practice, but died suddenly about two years afterward. His remains were brought to Blackhawk County for burial.

A dispatch to the State Register, announcing his death, and which at the time, I clipped from the paper, states that he was on the Circuit and District Bench nearly fourteen years, and was once or twice a prominent candidate for the Supreme Bench.

J. B. Powers, of Cedar Falls, which was originally the county seat of Blackhawk County, and myself, were fellow members of the Iowa State Senate, in 1866. He afterward removed to Dubuque, and my sketch of him will be found in connection with the lawyers of that place. Of him, Mr. Allen says:

He was a successful practitioner of the firm of Powers & Hemenway and did a large business in Blackhawk County. He was elected District Attorney for his district, and served with marked efficiency. He was affable, pleasant, and a great story teller. He removed to Dubuque, where he died.

H. C. Hemenway, the partner of Senator Powers, was regarded as a sound and reliable lawyer. Of him, Mr. Allen says:

He was a man of excellent moral character, very positive in his opinions, faithful to the interests of his clients, very active and industrious, but more distinguished as an office than a trial lawyer.

William H. McClure impressed me as a unique character the first time I saw him, and this impression would seem to be verified from what follows. In an interview with James W. Woods, familiarly known as "Old Timber," probably the

FIND A GRAVE



Actions

- [Begin New Search](#)
- [Refine Last Search](#)
- [Cemetery Lookup](#)
- [Add Burial Records](#)
- [Help with Find A Grave](#)

Find all **Powers** in:

- [Fairview Cemetery](#)
- [Cedar Falls](#)
- [Black Hawk County](#)
- [Iowa](#)
- [Find A Grave](#)

[Top Contributors](#)

[Success Stories](#)

[Discussion Forums](#)

[Find A Grave Store](#)

[Support Find A Grave](#)

[Log In](#)



Advertisement

**FLIGHT +
FOUR-NIGHT
STAY**

STARTING AT
\$550.00

**ROLLOVER
TO
EXPAND**

**IN A LAND CALLED
COLORADO**



\$25/month

Unlimited Text, Email, Data & Web
Plus Hundreds of Talk Minutes



Joseph B Powers

Memorial

Photos

Flowers

Edit

[Learn about sponsoring this memorial...](#)

Birth: 1827
New York, USA
Death: 1905

Family links:

Spouse:
Jennie Powers (1836 - 1923)*

Children:
Josie Powers (1863 - 1863)*
Martie Powers (1864 - 1865)*

[*Point here for explanation](#)

Burial:
[Fairview Cemetery](#)
Cedar Falls
Black Hawk County
Iowa, USA

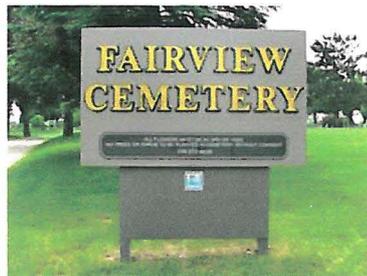
Created by: [Norm Hopkins](#)
Record added: Oct 08, 2006
Find A Grave Memorial# 16055650



Added by: [Norm Hopkins](#)



Added by: [Norm Hopkins](#)



Cemetery Photo

Added by: [Anonymous](#)

Add a photo for this person

Request A Photo

Photos may be scaled.
Click on image for full size.

Leave flowers and a note

[Accuracy and Copyright Disclaimer](#)

FIND A GRAVE



Actions

- [Begin New Search](#)
- [Refine Last Search](#)
- [Cemetery Lookup](#)
- [Add Burial Records](#)
- [Help with Find A Grave](#)

- [Top Contributors](#)
- [Success Stories](#)
- [Discussion Forums](#)
- [Find A Grave Store](#)
- [Support Find A Grave](#)

[Log In](#)

Advertisement



Introducing

LG Optimus V™

Crazy Android™ Experience

\$199.99

No Contract

Nationwide Sprint® 3G Network

GET IT NOW



[Search for obituaries](#) Search millions of obituaries in thousands of newspapers. www.ancestry.com

[Robert Culp Dies At 79](#) Read About The Recent Death Of Actor Robert Culp At AARP AARP.org

AdChoices

Joseph B Powers

Memorial

Photos

Flowers

Edit

[Learn about sponsoring this memorial...](#)

[\[Add A Photo\]](#)



Image is scaled. Click image to open at full size.

Added by: [Norm Hopkins](#)
10/08/2006

[Accuracy and Copyright Disclaimer](#)