

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative GUNDERSON, CHARLES LEWIS Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Pocahontas County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 13 October 1859, Boscobel, Wisconsin

2. Marriage (s) date place

Dena Christiansen (JULY 1866 - 15 March 1950), 20 July 1884, Boscobel

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Farmer, grain mill, bank, insurance

B. Civic responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_

C. Profession \_\_\_\_\_

4. Church membership Presbyterian

5. Sessions served 38th and 39th GA, 1919-1922, Pocahontas Co.

6. Public Offices

A. Local jp 6 years, township trustee 6 years, school board

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

C. National \_\_\_\_\_

7. Death 31 December 1946, at home, Rolfe, Iowa, sudden heart attack.  
Bur. Clinton-Garfield Cem.

8. Children (1) George (Mar. 1886-1929), lawyer; (2) Dr. Arthur (Nov. 1888-1975),  
dentist, capt. Iowa football team, symphony violinist; Everett, Wash.); (3) John (Oct. 1890-  
20 Oct. 1958), stayed on family farm); (4) Ruth J. (VandeSteege) (Mar. 1892 - 1978), teacher,  
liv Orange City, Ia; (5) Naomi (c. 1895 - ), teacher in Calif; then m. Orange City); (6)

9. Names of parents //Martha(Boggs) (c. 1898 - ) teacher, Calif.  
George and Helen Gunderson, Boscobel, Wis.



10. Education Wisconsin common and high schools

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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11. Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Other applicable information Father bought farm land in Pocahontas Co, 1878; Charles & his brother settled on in 1881. Brother moved to Washington c. 1884. ~~Five~~ Charles farmed there for rest of life; in 1901 it was owned by great grandchildren. Five of the six children graduated from University of Iowa. Lawyer, dentist, 3 teachers Charles was pioneer in Pocahontas Co. Mut Ins. Co., director and president; Pres. of Iowa State Mut. Ins. Assn, 1923; partner in Rolfe Grain and Mill Co.; vp. of Rolfe State Bank. Elder in church; Mason, Eastern Star, Trustee of Buena Vista College. Celebrated 62d wedding anniversary. Survived by wife, five children, eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Altho 1904 History says he was born in Norway, all other places put in Iowa birth, and 1981 History says he was second-generation American.

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# Last Rites Held For C. Gunderson at Rolfe Friday

C. L. Gunderson, 87, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Rolfe, at 9:00 o'clock Tuesday morning, Dec. 31. He was up at the usual time and about his usual activities and then went to the garage and started his car. He then came back to the house and sat down to rest, and died in a few minutes.

Funeral services were held on Friday afternoon at the Presbyterian church with the Rev. W. F. Schneck in charge. Mrs. Jennie Bowen, Mrs. C. J. Morrison, Mrs. Carl White and Miss Catherine McIntire sang two hymns, accompanied by Mrs. C. E. Boyce, church organist. Pallbearers were O. E. Lehnus, E. P. Lomen, J. H. Brinkman, T. W. Ives, C. E. Boyce and Donald Davidson. Burial was in Clinton-Garfield cemetery.

Charles Lewis Gunderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Gunder-

son, was born on October 13, 1859 at Bascobel, Wis. He came to Iowa in July 1881 to work on his fathers farm. On July 20, 1884 he married Denna Christenson of Bascobel. To this union six children were born. The oldest son George, died in 1929. Surviving Mr. Gunderson are his wife and children, Dr. Arthur Gunderson of Everett, Washington, John of Rolfe, Mrs. A. J. Vander Stegge (Ruth) of Orange City, Naomi and Mrs. S. R. Boggs (Martha) of Pasadena, California. There are eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Last July Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson celebrated their sixty-second wedding anniversary.

In 1890 Mr. Gunderson became a director of the Pocahontas Co. Mutual Insurance Co. of which he has been president since 1909. In 1923 he was elected president of the State Mutual Insurance Ass'n. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star and a trustee on Buena Vista College board. He served two terms as Pocahontas Co. representative in the Iowa Legislature in 1919 and 1921. He was vice president of the Rolfe State Bank.

## Newman Discharged

Gerald I. Newman, T-4, received his discharge December 27 from the U. S. army at Camp Hood. Gerald has served with the army three years, most of which time was spent in Italy.

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MEMBERS OF THIRTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY—REPRESENTATIVES.



Chas. Gilmore  
of Sioux Rapids



W. E. Giltner  
of Albia



T. F. Griffin  
of Sioux City



Chas. L. Gunderson  
of Pocahontas



John W. Hanna  
of Vinton



John T. Hansen  
of Davenport

school. He studied law at the University of Notre Dame and graduated from that institution in June, 1888. He was admitted to the bar in October of the same year and has been engaged in the practice of law at Sioux City since that time. In 1891 he was married to Miss Rose Hartnett. Elected representative in 1912. Re-elected in 1914, 1916 and 1918. A republican in politics.

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C. L. GUNDERSON.

Representative from Pocahontas county, was born in Wisconsin, October 13, 1859. His education was acquired in the common and high schools in Wisconsin. He came to Pocahontas county in 1881, locating on a farm. In July, 1884 he married Miss Dena Christensen of Bascobel, Wisconsin. They have six children, three sons and three daughters. He owns one-third interest in the Rolfe Grain and Milling company, of which he is president. He was one of the organizers of the Pocahontas County Farmers Institute, and president of the Farmers Mutual Insurance company of Pocahontas county. One of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator company of Pocahontas, Iowa. Was its secretary nine years. He is presiding elder in the Presbyterian church of Rolfe. Elected representative in 1918. A republican in politics.

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J. W. HANNA,

Representative from Benton county, was born in Benton county, Iowa, August 29, 1857, of Scotch-Irish parentage. Was born on the farm his pioneer father, A. H. Hanna, entered from the government. He moved to Vinton in 1914 but owns and operates the farm known as Grandview Farm jointly with his son. He was educated in rural schools and Cornell College. He was one of the organizers and president of the Farmers Saving Bank, of Garrison, Iowa, and is connected with several enterprises there. He has for the last year been member and secretary of the Local Draft Board for Benton county. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. Elected representative in 1918. A republican in politics.

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JOHN T. HANSEN,

One of the representatives from Scott county, was born at Davenport, Iowa, November 28, 1858. Moved to Sherman township, Scott county, May 1, 1861, where he attended the country schools and learned the blacksmith trade under his father. He took up farming in 1880, retiring two years ago. Was married to Emma E. Horst in March, 1887 who died in October, 1897, and has two boys and two girls, both boys being now in the army. Always interested in public affairs, member of the school board for eleven years, president of Eldridge Mutual Telephone company for six years, and now vice president of Scott County Farm League. A Modern Woodman. Elected representative in 1916. Re-elected in 1918. A republican in politics.

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T. P. HARRINGTON,

Representative from Kossuth county, was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, December 17th, 1867. He came to Iowa with his parents in 1882 and settled on a farm in Wright county where he resided until 1899 when he moved to Algona, Kossuth county, and formed the law firm of "Harrington & Dickinson" of which he is still a member. He secured his legal education in the University of Iowa, was city attorney of Algona for two years and county attorney of Kossuth county for four years. County food administrator and chairman of county council of defense during the world war. Elected representative in 1916. Re-elected in 1918. A republican in politics.

House would tender, by this resolution, its sincere sympathy to the surviving members of his family in their sorrow; and

*Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House, and that the Chief Clerk be instructed to send an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

RAY E. SHEPARD,  
E. E. POSTON,  
A. H. AVERY.

*Committee.*

memorial to the Honorable C. L. Gunderson of Pocahontas County

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character and public service of the late Honorable Charles Lewis Gunderson, begs leave to submit the following memorial:

Charles Lewis Gunderson, son of George and Helen Gunderson, was born October 13, 1859, at Boscobel, Wisconsin. He was 87 years, two months and 18 days old at the time of death. He was baptized in the North Lutheran church of which he later became a member. He attended Boscobel high school. In July, 1881, he came to Iowa to work on his father's land and later was joined by his brother, Gunder. The two farmed together for several years.

On July 20, 1884, he married Dena C. Christensen of Boscobel. To this union six children were born. The oldest son, George, passed away in 1929. Dr. Arthur Gunderson resides at Everett, Washington, John at Rolfe, Mrs. A. J. Vande Steeg (Ruth) at Orange City, Naomi and Mrs. S. R. Boggs (Martha) at Pasadena, California. There are eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Last July Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson celebrated their sixty-second wedding anniversary.

In 1890 C. L. Gunderson became a director of the Pocahontas County Mutual Insurance Company, of which he had been president since 1909. In 1923 he was elected president of the State Mutual Insurance Association.

Mr. Gunderson was also a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star and a trustee on the Buena Vista College board. He served two terms as Pocahontas county Representative in the Iowa legislature in 1919 and 1921. He was vice president of the Rolfe State Bank.

In the late nineties Mr. Gunderson and his family affiliated with the Rolfe Presbyterian church. He was an elder in this church. He attended church and Sunday school regularly and faithfully.

*Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Fifty-second General Assembly*, That in the passing of the late Honorable C. L. Gunderson, the state has lost a valued and honored citizen, and the House would tender, by this resolution, its sincere sympathy to the surviving members of his family in their sorrow; and

enteen, he located first in New York state and then six years in Illinois. In 1860 he married Charity O. Van Natta, of Kirtland, Ind., and his family consisted of seven children, one of whom died in infancy, and William H., at Havelock in 1893 at the age of twenty-nine. Nellie M. (Atherton), Minnie (Boyden), James C., Elmer and George are married and live in Humboldt county.

**Garrison** Charles F., (b. Dec. 12, 1856,) Rolfe, has become the veteran photographer of Pocahontas county. His fine brick block, complete equipment and superior quality of work place him in the front rank as a first-class artist; and by securing the patronage of a section of country that embraces more than the north half of this county he has built up a lucrative business.

He is a native of Elkhart, Indiana, the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Garrison. He acquired a practical knowledge of the photographer's art in Chicago and practiced it for several years in Detroit. In 1884, coming with his brother to Fort Dodge, under the name of Garrison Bros., they established a fine studio and their name was a guaranty of the finest workmanship. In May, 1886, he began to do business at Rolfe in a portable gallery that was located on the lot where the brick building now stands. At that time this lot was worth \$300, but when he bought it, ten years later, he had to pay \$1000 for it. At first he spent one month of each year at Rolfe in the portable gallery. In 1889 he purchased a building for a gallery; and in April, 1890, dissolving partnership with his brother, moved to Rolfe with his family, which consisted of his

wife and his father and mother. In 1896 he erected the two-story brick block he has since occupied. There is not a finer suite of gallery rooms in Northwest Iowa, and he is well prepared to supply the wants of the people with fine pictures in every size and style. He has established branch galleries at Marathon, Laurens and Ruthven.

In October, 1888, he married Adah D. Fulcher of Three Rivers, Mich., and she has rendered him valuable assistance in the studio. His father died at Rolfe, July 12, 1896.

**Gunderson** Charles L., (b. Oct. 13, 1859,) Rolfe P. O., is a native of Norway, the son of George and Helen Gunderson. In 1881, he came to Pocahontas county, bought 320 acres of land on section 25, Center township, and began to reside upon it. He was then a single man. Gunder B. Gunderson, his brother, lived with him during the first three years of his residence on the farm, and then went to the state of Washington, where he has filled with credit to himself the office of superintendent of public schools. Gunder taught school during the winter months for a number of years and taught the first school in the Brinkman school house, District No. 6, Center township.

In 1884 Charles L. married Dena, daughter of Iver and Nellie Christiansen, of Wisconsin, and his family consists of six children: George I., Arthur H., John C., Ruth J., Naomi H. and Martha C.

He is now one of the most highly respected and substantial farmers of Center township, being the happy possessor of 480 acres of land on which he has erected fine improvements. He

served six years as a trustee of Center township, 1890-92, '95-97; six years as a justice of the peace and was secretary of the school board in 1898. He is recognized as a man of sterling integrity, a staunch republican and a firm believer in the cause of prohibition.

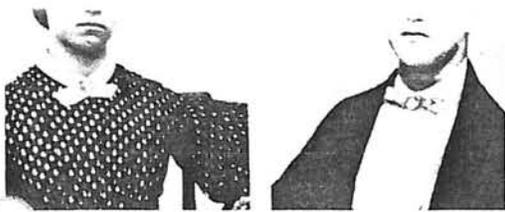
**Kennedy William Campbell**(b. Oct. 20, 1854,) an enthusiastic Sunday School worker, has been a resident of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 10, Clinton township, since March, 1881. He is the son of David and Martha (Campbell b. June 19, 1823) Kennedy, who, subsequent to their marriage in 1850, lived four years near Fort Wayne, Ind., where W. C. was born. In 1857 his parents located near DeWitt, Clinton county, Iowa, where his father died in 1875. His mother was a native of County Down, Ireland, came to America with her father at eighteen, raised a family of seven children, six of whom are living, and died at Goldfield, Sept. 27, 1898. W. C., Feb. 16, 1881, married Catherine P. Seifert and a few days later, locating on his present farm, began the work of its improvement. He has since increased its size to 386 acres, and no one can view the fine buildings erected or note their capacity and conveniences without perceiving that it is one of the most conveniently arranged stock farms in that part of the county. In the home he has endeavored to combine beauty with comfort, and on the farm winter protection for all his stock and an abundant supply of good water.

He was treasurer of the school fund of Clinton township in 1882-83, assessor in 1889-92, president of the school board in 1890 and a trustee in 1893-95.

He is a successful raiser as well as feeder of cattle, and finds he obtains the best results by putting two calves to one cow evenings and mornings until they are eight or ten weeks old, providing them other suitable food according to their age and needs. The larger cattle in the fall of the year,

are fed corn on the ear until they are observed shelling it from the cob. After this the corn is shelled, mixed with oats ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) and placed in large self-feeders where they can get it at any time of the day and as much of it as they want. He feeds about six months, and it is not unusual for the cattle to make an average daily gain of four pounds each during that period. He raises annually about seventy head of hogs, and though he uses no stock food or patent medicines he has hitherto escaped the cholera. During the feeding period many of them are allowed to roam in the large feed yard with the cattle. The hay-racks around the inside of the open cattle-sheds rest on wide troughs or tables, and underneath these the hogs find at night a dry and comfortable resting-place, that causes them to be widely distributed. Salt is placed where they can get it and a little lime occasionally in their troughs.

He was raised in a home where he enjoyed the sweet and blessed influence of the family altar. At the age of sixteen he presented himself for union with the United Presbyterian church to which his parents belonged. The fact that he was a comparative stranger did not prevent him from taking the lead in establishing and maintaining a Sunday School in the new town of Rolfe in 1881, and he was annually re-elected superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School of Rolfe from the time it was organized until Jan 1, 1897, when he organized and became superintendent of the Home department in it, the first one in the county. During the fifteen years he was superintendent of the church school he was always present, except when prevented by sickness or absence from home. During the summer seasons he has devoted his Sabbath afternoons to the maintenance of Sabbath Schools in the school-houses in the vicinity of his home.



William A. (Gus) Grove and Alice Grove



Charles and Gloria Gunderson

member of Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star, a member of Buena Vista College Board of Trustees. He served two terms in the Iowa Legislature in 1919 and 1921. In 1935 he helped organize Rolfe State Bank, later becoming its vice-president.

*Arrived in Rolfe to meet Mrs. G. June 15, 1935. President of Rolfe State Bank.*

However, a year later, they came back to Rolfe where they resided until their death. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in Rolfe in 1917. Both are buried at the Clinton-Garfield Cemetery at Rolfe.

Alice Bovey was born at Hagerstorn, Maryland, in July 30, 1850. Her parents were Jacob and Rebecca (Rhinehart) Bovey. Her father was a United Brethern Circuit rider preacher. Since he was against slavery, his father, a wealthy Virginia slave owner, disinherited him. Jacob and son Albert died of typhoid fever during the Civil War at Edinburg, Virginia. A few years later the family accompanied a neighbor family by covered wagon to Lightsville, Illinois. A few years later, Alice's mother married Albert Strouse. They moved to Adeline, Illinois, where she met Gus and was married. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and took an active part in the Missionary Society, and the Ladies Aid Society as long as she was able. She was also a charter member of the Eastern Star of Rolfe. On March 7, 1934, at the age of 84, she died in Stillwater, Oklahoma, while visiting her daughter, Mrs. W.H. Wilcox. Submitted by Mrs. Joe Reigelsberger

adults.

Charles Abbott Gunderson was born on May 29, 1943, in Waterloo, Iowa, the son of Deane C. and Marion A. Gunderson. He and his parents and sisters moved to the family farm southwest of Rolfe at age 2, where he lived through his high school years. Charles graduated from Rolfe Community High School in 1962, from Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business in 1966, and from The University of Iowa College of Law with a Juris Doctor degree in 1969. He began the practice of law in Rolfe in June of 1969 and served as Pocahontas County Attorney from 1970 to 1974. He still has a strong interest in agriculture and manages some of the family farms. He has served as President and organizer of Rolfe-Plex, Inc., a nonprofit senior citizens housing corporation, and as one of the organizers of Rolfe Swimming Pool Association. In the Rolfe Presbyterian Church he has served as Elder, Stated Clerk, Delegate to Presbytery, Delegate to Synod, Christian Education Committee Member and Sunday School teacher. Charles is now serving as State Secretary and has served as State Chaplain of The Gideons International of Iowa. His motto is, "Success is being in the will of God. Period."



Charles (Charley) Gunderson

### JULIUS AND DELMA GUDERIAN FAMILY

Julius was born on a farm near Palmer and later moved with his parents to a farm 3 miles west and 1/4 miles south of Gilmore City. Here he grew up and attended the rural school.

He was one of 8 children of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Guderian.

Delma was born east of Dakota City in Humboldt County. She grew up on various farms in Humboldt County and was educated in rural schools and graduated from Pioneer High School. She was one of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Seaver.

Julius and Delma met at a church gathering at the First Lutheran Church in Gilmore City and were married in the Methodist Church of Humboldt.

They are parents of three children: Raymond Charles of Le Mars, Iowa, Louise Kay of Fort Dodge, Iowa and Leslie Robert of Humboldt.

Julius and Delma spent the first 12 years living and farming on farms in Pocahontas County and the next 27 years on farms in Humboldt County. They moved to a home in Gilmore City, Pocahontas County on January 18, 1981 and now reside there.

They are members of the First Lutheran Church in Gilmore City. By: Delma Guderian

### CHARLES AND GLORIA GUNDERSON

Charles and Gloria Gunderson were married in Paul, Minnesota, on December 20, 1975. Their theme verse is Psalm 37:4, "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." Together they have been active in the Rolfe Presbyterian Church and its choir, The Gideons International Bible Study, and in the teaching and leadership of Christian youth and

Gloria Kathleen Pauluk was born on March 28, 1949, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the daughter of John E. and Dorothy E. Pauluk. Dorothy grew up in Nottingham, England. Later she was remarried to Gordon G. Carlberg. Gloria grew up in Hopkins and Eden Prairie, Minnesota, and graduated from Eden Prairie High School in 1967. She attended Buena Vista College from which she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education in 1971. Gloria taught the elementary grades in the Rolfe Community School for six years. At times she has been in charge of or taught Vacation Bible School for her church with innovative ideas and some surprises, including visits by "Moses" and "Joseph." Gloria has been Circle Chairman for U.P.W., Christian Education Committee Member, Sunday School teacher, and guide for Bible coffees of the Christian Women's Club. She is active in Beta Sigma Phi, P.E.O. and Tuesday Club, and is on the Care Review Committee of the Rolfe nursing home. Gloria's favorite hobbies are crafts and Ukranian Easter eggs.

Charles and Gloria live one block north of the Rolfe School in a house which Charles built in 1974.

### CHARLES L. AND DENA GUNDERSON

Charles and Dena were both second generation Americans of 100% Norwegian ancestry.

The original 320 acres of Gunderson land in Section 25, Center Township (now Roosevelt), was purchased sight-unseen in 1878 by George Gunderson of Boscobel, Wisconsin. In 1881 his two sons, Charles and Gunder, settled on the land, taking the name of Gunderson and selling the land the way. The Flickinger history of Pocahontas County

Dena taught school in Boscobel, Wisconsin, when she was 16. Early in their marriage she taught her brother-in-law, Gunder Gunderson, in "Brinkman" rural school two miles north of the home. A member of Eastern Star, A.L.D. Cl. W.C.T.U., and Rolfe Woman's Club, she became charter member of the original board of trustees of Rolfe Public Library in 1926.

Both were very active members of Rolfe Presbyterian Church where Charles was an elder.

Five of their six children graduated from the University of Iowa — George, lawyer; Arthur, medical doctor; Ruth, Naomi and Martha, teachers.

Only two are still living. Martha, with her husband, Sidney Boggs (dentist), lived in Pasadena, California until he retired. She now lives in Duarte, California.

Naomi Gunderson lives in Orange City, Iowa, after a career teaching Spanish in Clovis, California.

Ruth taught mathematics several years, later marrying Arthur VandeSteege. They lived at Orar City, Iowa, where he was a merchant. Ruth died in 1978.

George, the oldest of the children, died in California in 1929.

Arthur was nicknamed "King" at the University of Iowa where he captained the Hawkeye football team. He owned and operated a threshing rig. After completing medical school he went to Everett, Washington, where he helped found The Everett Clinic. He loved the violin and played with the University of Iowa Orchestra. He died in 1976.

There is a separate article about John, the third



Dena Christensen Gunderson

In the early 1920's Charles retired and they moved to Rolfe, having expanded the farm to 840 acres. He died December 31, 1946, age 87. He was known for his humor, sound business practices, and kindness to his fellow man.

Dena was 83 when she died March 15, 1950. She is remembered for her dignity, keen mind, and neighborliness. Her hobby was "to be on time."

On July 4, 1978, 32 of their descendants congregated at the Deane Gunderson home to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the purchase of the original Gunderson land. This Centennial Farm is now owned by their great-grandchildren, Clara Gunderson-Hoover and Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Gunderson. Submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Deane Gunderson

### DEANE AND MARION GUNDERSON



Deane Gunderson, third generation Rolfe Community resident, son of John and DeElda Lighter Gunderson, was born in 1918 in Roosevelt Township. After completing eighth grade at Roosevelt #7 School, and graduation from Rolfe High School in 1935, he attended Iowa State College. There he met Marion Abbott of Ogden, Utah. Deane received two B.S. degrees in engineering in 1939 and 1940, while Marion received a B.S. degree in Applied Art in 1941. They were married July 23, 1941, at First Presbyterian Church, Ogden, Utah, and established their home in Waterloo, Iowa, where Deane was an engineer for John Deere Tractor Works.

In 1945 they moved to Section 13, Roosevelt Township, where Deane farmed until retiring in 1975.

Two of their children, Charles A. Gunderson and Louise Shimon (Mrs. William) live in the Rolfe Community. Four other daughters are Clara Hoover (Mrs. Harold), Omaha, Nebraska; Helen Gunderson, Fargo, North Dakota; Martha Carlson (Mrs. Michael), East Grinstead, England; Margaret Moore (Mrs. Jeffrey), Lansing, Michigan. All have attended Iowa State University, and five, along with four sons-in-law, have graduated from there. Another son, Christian, died at birth. The Gundersons have four grandchildren — Kevin Carlson, Abigail and Katherine Shimon, and Joshua Moore.

Deane and Marion are members of Rolfe Presbyterian Church.

Deane has served several years as Pocahontas County Republican Finance Chairman and was delegate to the 1968 Republican National Convention. He has served the Rolfe School Board 15 years, and also has served as director, vice-president, and presently treasurer of the Iowa Association of School Boards over a period of ten years. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity at Ames, and for 25 years served as president of its Alumni Association. He is a member of the Iowa State University Achievement Foundation Board of Governors, director of the Rolfe State Bank, and member of the Rolfe Lions Club.

Mrs. Gunderson, known as "Marion the Librarian," is head librarian at Rolfe Public Library where she has worked since 1963.

She is a watercolorist, having exhibited at art galleries in northwest Iowa, Memorial Union in Ames, and Younkers store in Des Moines. Her art interests extended to cataloguing and mending the art library at Blandin Gallery, Fort Dodge.

She has been Girl Scout leader, Cub Scout den mother, and 4-H leader. She served two terms on the County Extension Council and one term on the State Extension Advisory Committee.

She is a member of Pi Beta Phi, P.E.O., and Sorosis Club, and is presently serving a five year term on Iowa State University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Deane and Marion are tournament bridge players, having received the highest ranking of the American Contract Bridge League.

In 1980 they received the Alumni Recognition Medal from Iowa State University, the first time that it had been given simultaneously to a husband and wife.

They own a cottage on Lake West Okoboji where their family gathers annually. It is called Gunderrake while home on the farm is Gunderrland. Submitted by Deane Gunderson

### HELEN DeELDA GUNDERSON

I was born on April 19, 1945, at Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo, Iowa, and given the names of my grandmothers . . . Helen Abbott and DeElda

farmer.

I was the third of six children. Shortly after my birth, the family moved to Section 13 of Roosevelt Township. I lived there until going to college but have returned for visits of significant length.



Helen Gunderson

I am honored in having known my grandfather, John Gunderson, who farmed with horses and an occasional International tractor. My father transformed the scene to John Deere implements.

I did much field work and at times had "livestock projects" . . . feeding milk to orphan piglets and raising chickens for 4-H.

I received my public education at Rolfe, graduating fifth of 36 in the class of 1963. One incident of notoriety was in seventh grade when I spearheaded a petition drive requesting the school to institute girls basketball. We got the sport in 1959 when the Des Moines Township and Rolfe schools combined and I was a freshman.

My 13 or so years as camper and counselor at YMCA Camp Foster at Spirit Lake was at one time the longest any one person had been there. This experience was also significant in my development.

My formal education continued with a B.S. in 1967 in physical education from Iowa State University and an M.S. in 1975 in audio-visual communications from the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

My career includes five and a half years teaching secondary physical education in Duluth and Eagle Grove. Then I eagerly moved out of public school education and worked three years in sports information at North Dakota State University in Fargo before serving as director of the YMCA of NDSU the past three years. It is not a "gym and pool" YMCA but is similar to a campus ministry organization.

I consider myself an "upper midwesterner" and appreciate rural countryside. It is a rich part of my emotional heritage plus I am an absentee Pocahontas County landowner. I have yearnings of living closer to the land.

I have become increasingly involved in the Presbyterian Church, enjoying large and somewhat progressive congregations in Duluth and Fargo. In Fargo, I have been a Deacon and member of the Christian education committee.

In the late 70's I put a lot of volunteer hours into a 45 minute slide/tape show on the history of the Rolfe schools which I presented at the alumni banquet in June of 1980.

I have no hesitation in taking pride in my full personhood as a single person. Submitted by Helen DeElda Gunderson

### JOHN AND DeELDA



John and DeElda Gunderson

He was one of six children of Charles and Dena Gunderson who were Pocahontas County pioneers. DeElda was born in Rolfe March 9, 1893, and was one of seven children of Joseph and Emma Wilhelm Lighter. Her father was a Rolfe printer and newspaper editor.

Before her marriage DeElda was clerk and general assistant in the Gilmore City Variety Store belonging to her sister, Cora Lighter. In 1915 DeElda became cashier and bookkeeper for the Geo. O. Hauck General Store in Rolfe.

John had begun farming in about 1905, renting ground from his father.

The couple was married Christmas Day, 1917, in the home of her parents. They had one son, Deane Gunderson, who was born September 16, 1918. His story is told elsewhere in this book.

John was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, and Garfield Township Farm Bureau. He was very active in his adopted Methodist Church where for many years he served as a trustee, finance chairman, and member of the official board. He also was on the school board for Roosevelt #7 rural school.

DeElda was an active member of the Rolfe Methodist Church since childhood, and was a life member of the Methodist W.S.C.S. She also was a member of Sorosis Club, and a charter member of Chapter BB, T.T.T.

During their years together John bought out his father's land holdings and in time expanded the farm to 2040 acres. Farming was both his vocation and avocation. He loved horses, and did not quickly accept tractors. His son, Deane, came back to start farming with him in 1945.

John is remembered for his ready humor, his soft spoken manner, and the simple life of an Iowa

much loved by her six grandchildren. Within a year or two after John's death she moved into Rolfe where she died after a long illness on January 7, 1964. Submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Deane Gunderson *sent in parents home of 7-20-1965*

## AUGUST AND CHRISTINE GUSTAFSON

August and Christine Carlson Gustafson came from Sweden. They were parents of 8 children: Julia (Mrs. Fritz Lundberg), Mabel (Mrs. Alfred Larson), Edith (Mrs. Bert Egertson), Esther (Mrs. Waldemar Peterson), Gilbert, Earnest, Robert and Ed Gustafson. All are deceased in this year of 1981 but Mabel Larson of Albert City. She was 94 Jan. 11th and still lives alone in her own home. Mrs. Bert Egertsen was the mother of August and Martin Egertsen, Marie Fagerlund and Christine Ryon (deceased Aug. 11, 1963).

## THE CARL JOHN GUSTAFSON FAMILY

Carl John Gustafson was born December 17, 1860 in Skaraborg's Lan, Vastergotland, Sweden and came to America at the age of 21 on November 26, 1882. (He had 3 sisters and 3 brothers) Carl first was employed in a furniture factory at Rockford, Illinois, and then moved to Alta, Iowa where some

Carl and they corresponded by letter after he moved to Alta. In January 1889, he wrote "I'm comin Chicago and we'll get married — don't tell anyo

These were my grandparents who were married Chicago, February 16, 1889. While first living in Alta where Lillie was born, Grandpa bought acres S.W. of Laurens for \$10 an acre. This was recorded May 8, 1889. Later they moved to the farm on which Grandpa built a house. The last west ro were added on in 1909. Eight more children were born on this farm: Godtfred, Nora, Anna, Hjalmar, Justus, Ray, Malcolm and Marie. On July 17, 1915 Grandma died from cancer of the liver. Grandpa carried on alone with help of older children as Marie was only a few months old. In 1917 he and younger children moved to Albert City. (He built that house).

In 1929 Grandpa and Hjalmar went to South Dakota and brought back evergreen seedlings which were planted on the farm.

On July 29, 1930 Grandpa married Emily Anderson of Albert City.

Carl was a member of the Laurens Lutheran Church. In 1899 he joined the Mission Covenant Church of Albert City and was church board secretary for many years. July 31, 1947 Carl John passed away.

Justus, my father, was born August 26, 1898. He went 8 years to the north corner, Swan Lake country school. He then worked on the farm. At age 13 he remembers his mother outside yelling that something was wrong. She could see a team of horses running east on the road a mile south. They were the Albert City bank robbers who had just earlier switched teams for fresh horses with A. Anderson (Ekstam) and her mother. Justus remembers swallowing a nail at the age of 11. His dad took him by train to Chicago to doctors who wanted to operate, but Carl John said "no, we're going home to talk to mother first." To this day Justus doesn't know where the nail went.

Justus and Ida Naomi Anderson were married December 22, 1920 at Albert City in his father's home. They started farming 4 miles east of Albert City (Tom Selke place) where Earl was born. Later they moved to the home place where Leona, Lowe DeWayne and Ethel were born. Submitted by DeWayne E. Gustafson

## THE DeWAYNE GUSTAFSON FAMILY

DeWayne was born March 23, 1927 in the same house his dad was. He has 2 older brothers, Earl and Lowell and 1 older sister, Leona, and a young sister, Ethel. DeWayne went 7 years to Marshall country school and graduated from Albert City in 1945. After graduating, he served with the Army for 16 months, then worked in Des Moines in the partnership for International Harvester and can



Carl John and Emma Gustafson



Christina Carlson Gustafson and Children



DeWayne Gustafson Family Heidi, Randy, Dale, Ar and DeWayne