

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Mitchell, John H. Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Webster County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 5 Nov 1899 Fort Dodge, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place  
① Ruth Jaqua Feb 1926 Harold St, Iowa

② Helen McCarville

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Admitted to the Iowa Bar in 1923; he was in practice 61 years;  
1951-1955 he was a part time referee in bankruptcy for northern district of Iowa

B. Civic responsibilities Eks Club; American Legion; Chamber of Commerce;  
Rotary; Kiwanis

C. Profession Attorney

4. Church membership Catholic

5. Sessions served 45<sup>th</sup>, 46<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1933, 1935

6. Public Offices

A. Local Served 16 years on the Fort Dodge school board; director of the Webster County School  
Board; in 1927 he was the tenth Nebraska Legion district commander

B. State Attorney General of Iowa 1937-1939; Speaker of the House; an organizer of  
Iowa Central Community College and president 1966-1976;

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

7. Death 20 Apr 1992 Fort Dodge, Iowa

8. Children Jean (Mrs. House); Martha (Mrs. Schuster)

9. Names of parents Michael J. and Mary (Howard) Mitchell

Mitchell, John H

10. Education Attended Corpus Christi elementary school, Fort Dodge, Iowa  
and graduated from Fort Dodge High School in 1918

11. Degrees Attended Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa; completed his  
undergraduate and law school at the University of Iowa, Iowa City,  
Iowa

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- Military service - World War I - member of the Student Army  
Training Corps which qualified him as a Veteran of WWI.
- His first wife, Ruth, died in 1979.
- He practiced law in Humboldt, Iowa 1923-1927 when he joined his  
father in practice at Fort Dodge, Iowa. This law firm also  
included his brother Donald J. Mitchell
- He retired at age 85 in December 1984 after 61 years as a practicing  
attorney.

Mitchell, John H

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- <u>Iowa Official Register</u>		1935-1936	p. 149
- <u>The Story of Iowa</u>		1952	p. 989-990
- <u>Iowa Press Association of White Plains</u>		1940	p. 1250
- <u>Obituary - The Fort Dodge Messenger, Fort Dodge, Iowa</u>			News. Apr. 21, 1992, p. 1, col. 2 and p. 2, col. 3, 4 Id. Apr. 22, 1992, p. 5, col. 6
- <u>Portrait</u>			The original photo is located in the archives of the State of Iowa Historical Library, 600 E. Grant, Des Moines, Iowa
- <u>ancestry.com</u>			(accessed 24 July 2012)





Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Illinois Fort Dodge district manager. "I expect the board to definitely approve a rate increase, based on the information we're providing," Unser said. "It probably will be very close to what we have proposed."

month to \$59.94," a 13.6 percent increase. Typical monthly bills would go up 8.4 percent for commercial customers and 10.4 percent for

See RATES, Page 2

# Longtime attorney John Mitchell dies

By WALTER B. STEVENS  
Editor emeritus

John H. Mitchell, 92, former Iowa attorney general, former Iowa House speaker and a practicing attorney in Humboldt and Fort Dodge for 61 years, died Monday afternoon at Trinity Regional Hospital after a long illness with cancer.



John H. Mitchell

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Friday at Corpus Christi Catholic Church following a 9:30 a.m. service at Laufersweiler-Sievers Funeral Home.

One of the organizers of Iowa Central Community College, Mitchell served as president of the board from 1966 to 1976. That service followed 16 years (1945-61) on the Fort Dodge Community School Board, the last seven as president, and five years (1961-66) as a director

of the Webster County School Board. A longtime trustee of Corpus Christi Catholic parish, Mitchell also served on parish and Sioux City diocesan school boards.

He was one of the organizers and early leaders of the Fort Dodge Betterment Foundation and in March 1979 was recognized by the board for his 35 years of service. The foundation made land available for Iowa Central Community College and other major community developments.

Other positions he held through the years include:

- Exalted ruler of the Elks Lodge.
- Grand knight and district deputy of the Knights of Columbus.
- Commander of the Humboldt American Legion Post and the Eighth District American Legion.
- President of the Fort Dodge Chamber of Commerce, president of the Industrial Development Corporation, president of the Webster County Bar Association.

See MITCHELL, Page 2

# This

## Tornado part of

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Easter Sunday  
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# Crisis line calls

## Date rape seen as growing problem

her afterward, confiding that she's a victim of a sexual assault.

"Right now, date rape is the fastest-growing area. The only people who can change the young people themselves," Swartz said. "That's why when we speak in schools, we really stress mutual respect."

Swartz says she believes youth are c

# cked i vote

# Mitchell

Continued from Page 1

20th state to resume  
ment since 1976. Har-  
the 169th person put to  
e U.S. Supreme Court's  
that allowed states to  
the death penalty.  
January, 2,547 inmates  
rows across the nation,  
the NAACP Legal  
Education Fund Inc.  
states that have death  
lifornia and 16 others  
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was scheduled to die at  
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th sentences upheld by  
then-liberal Supreme

e then spent most of the  
in the 9th U.S. Circuit  
eals as it became a test  
th penalty issues.

o years have been spent  
ther Harris could claim  
ineffective psychiatric

as Saturday, a federal  
arily halted the execu-  
a hearing on whether  
was cruel and unusual  
But a three-judge panel  
U.S. Circuit Court of  
turned that late Sunday

Numerous honors and awards were made to Mitchell in recognition of his charitable, educational and community service. Among them were:

- Naming of one of the dormitories at Iowa Central as Mitchell Hall.
- A special honor accorded in 1983 by the Rotary Club, of which he was a member for more than 50 years and served as president in 1944 and 1945.
- Lions Club Community Service Award in 1962.
- Kiwanis and Sertoma Club service awards.
- Grand marshal of the 1989 Frontier Days parade.

Mitchell's school board service came during an expansion and growth period unparalleled in the district's history. Most of the district's present schools, including Senior High, were built while he was on the board.

His career in state government was brief but memorable. Elected as a Democratic state representative from Webster County, he served only two terms, 1933 to 1936. He was only 35 and in his second term in the House when he was elected speaker — youngest ever to hold that office. His election came after he had sponsored innovative farm mortgage moratorium insurance to provide financially hard pressed Iowa farmers time to meet their mortgage obligations and hold onto their land in the Depression of the 30s.

After one term, 1937-39, as attorney general, Mitchell gave up state office and returned to Fort Dodge to resume the practice of law and to accept various leadership positions in the community.

The law firm headed by his father, the late M. J. Mitchell, also included his brother, the late Donald J. Mitchell, and widely-respected Alan Loth.

From 1951 to 1965, Mitchell was a part-time referee in bankruptcy for the northern district of Iowa.

He ended a distinguished law career with retirement, at age 85, in December 1984, from the law firm of Mitchell, Coleman, Perkins and Enke. His eyesight was failing sharply at the time.

During most of his retirement years, he has lived at the Marian Village.

Mitchell was born in Fort Dodge Nov. 5, 1899. He attended Corpus Christi elementary school and graduated from Fort Dodge Senior High in 1918.

It was while attending Loras College in Dubuque that he joined the Student Army Training Corps, thus qualifying as a veteran of World War I.

He transferred to the University of Iowa where he completed undergraduate and law school and was admitted to the Iowa Bar in 1923. He practiced law in Humboldt from 1923 to 1927 when he joined his father, M. J., in a Fort Dodge practice.

He married Ruth Jaqua of Humboldt in February 1926, and they had two daughters: Jean Kruse and Martha Schluter, both of whom live in Colorado Springs, Colo. Ruth died in 1979. John's second marriage was to Helen McCarville, widow of attorney Paul McCarville. Survivors are the widow Helen, the two daughters and six grandchildren.

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# North Central Iowa



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## JOHN H. MITCHELL

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3:30 a.m. Thurs-  
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his wife, Marga-  
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ercial Workers

John H. Mitchell, 92, 2320 6th  
Ave. N., died Monday at Trinity  
Regional Hospital, Fort Dodge.

Services will be 9:30 a.m. Friday  
at the Chapel of Laufersweiler-  
Sievers Funeral Home, Fort Dodge,  
and 10 a.m. Friday at Corpus Christi  
Church, Fort Dodge, with the Rev.  
Albert O. Grendler, pastor, officiat-  
ing at the Mass of Christian Burial.  
Visitation is at the funeral home after  
4 p.m. Thursday. A Legion of Mary  
Rosary will be held at 4:30 p.m.;  
Knights of Columbus Rosary, at 7  
p.m.; and a vigil for the deceased at 8  
p.m., all Thursday at the Funeral  
Home.

Survivors include his wife, Helen;  
daughters, Martha Schluter and  
Jeanne Kruse both of Colorado  
Springs, Colo.; six grandchildren;  
five great-grandchildren.

## May Baskets will be delivered

Second grade students from Cor-  
pus Christi School are taking May  
Baskets to "adopted grandparents"  
at the Marion Home on May 1. Betty  
Niceswanger is their teacher.

Years ago Betty began taking May  
Baskets to all residents of the Marion  
Home in honor of her deceased  
parents. Instead of spending money  
on flowers for her parents' graves,  
she said she felt her parents would  
want her to do something more worth  
while.

She got to know the staff at the

# Fort Dodge housing agency OKs salaries

By MICHELL HANSON  
Messenger staff writer

A 1.5 percent across-the-board  
cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)  
for housing agency employees was  
approved by the Fort Dodge Munic-  
ipal Housing Agency Board Tues-  
day's.

Wayne Taylor, agency director,  
said the increase would take effect  
July 1 and that he would incorporate  
it into the 1992-93 budget for the  
board's consideration at the May  
meeting.

The last increase was in July of  
1991 when agency employees re-  
ceived a 5 percent adjustment.

The board also adopted Resolution  
No. 6-92 of the Section 8 Existing  
Consolidated Annual Contributions  
Contract. It amends the Department  
of Housing and Urban Develop-  
ment's (HUD) Replacement Funding  
Contributions Contract.

Taylor said it is a financial change



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helenjwh1

Help

Home Family Trees Search DNA Collaborate Learning Center Publish Shop + Gift Hire An Expert

You searched for **John H. Mitchell** in **Iowa**

## Iowa, Births and Christenings Index, 1857-1947

Name: **John H Mitchell**  
Birth Date: **5 Nov 1899**  
Birth Place: **Fort Dodge, Webster, Iowa**  
Father's Name: **M J Mitchell**  
Mother's name: **Mary Howard**  
FHL Film **1401748**  
Number:

**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com. *Iowa, Births and Christenings Index, 1857-1947* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.  
Original data:

"Iowa Births and Christenings, 1830-1950." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2009, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled records.

**Description:**

This database is an index extracted from more than 1.7 million birth, baptism, and christening records from Iowa. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **John H. Mitchell** in **Iowa**

**1900 United States Federal Census**

Name: **John H Mitchell**  
 Age: **6/12**  
 Birth Date: **Nov 1899**  
 Birthplace: **Iowa**  
 Home in 1900: **Wahkonsa, Webster, Iowa [Webster]**  
 Race: **White**  
 Gender: **Male**  
 Relation to Head of House: **Son**  
 Marital Status: **Single**  
 Father's Name: **Michell Mitchell**  
 Father's Birthplace: **Iowa**  
 Mother's name: **Mary J Mitchell**  
 Mother's Birthplace: **Canada**  
 Occupation: [View on Image](#)  
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Michell Mitchell</a>	34
	<a href="#">Mary J Mitchell</a>	28
	<a href="#">John H Mitchell</a>	6/12

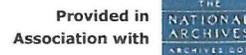
**Source Citation:** Year: 1900; Census Place: *Wahkonsa, Webster, Iowa*; Roll: 465; Page: 3A; Enumeration District: 187; FHL microfilm: 1240465.

**Source Information:**  
 Ancestry.com. 1900 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.

Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

**Description:**  
 This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1900 United States Federal Census, the Twelfth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, relationship to the head of household, color or race, sex, month and year of birth, age at last birthday, marital status, number of years married, the total number of children born of the mother, the number of those children living, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, if the individual was foreign born, the year of immigration and the number of years in the United States, the citizenship status of foreign-born individuals over age twenty-one, occupation, and more. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1900 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

You searched for **John H. Mitchell** in **Iowa**



1930 United States Federal Census

Name: **John H Mitchell**  
 Gender: **Male**  
 Birth Year: **abt 1900**  
 Birthplace: **Iowa**  
 Race: **White**  
 Home in 1930: **Fort Dodge, Webster, Iowa**  
[View Map](#)  
 Marital Status: **Married**  
 Relation to Head of House: **Head**  
 Spouse's Name: **Ruth Mitchell**  
 Father's Birthplace: **Iowa**  
 Mother's Birthplace: **Iowa**  
 Occupation:  
 Education:  
 Military Service: [View image](#)  
 Rent/home value:  
 Age at first marriage:  
 Parents' birthplace:  
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">John H Mitchell</a>	30
	<a href="#">Ruth Mitchell</a>	28
	<a href="#">Mary M Mitchell</a>	1
		[1
		7/12]
	<a href="#">Mary A Jaqua</a>	2
		[2
		9/12]
	<a href="#">Edna Hinz</a>	18

**Source Citation:** Year: 1930; Census Place: *Fort Dodge, Webster, Iowa*; Roll: 688; Page: 6A; Enumeration District: 38; Image: 13.0; FHL microfilm: 2340423.

**Source Information:**  
 Ancestry.com. *1930 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002.  
 Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

**Description:**  
 The 1930 Census contains records for approximately 123 million Americans. The census gives us a glimpse into the lives of Americans in 1930, and contains information about a household's family members and occupants including: birthplaces, occupations, immigration, citizenship, and military service. The names of those listed in the census are linked to actual images of the 1930 Census. [Learn more...](#)

You searched for **John H. Mitchell** in **Iowa**

## Social Security Death Index

Name: **John H. Mitchell**SSN: **482-48-2986**Born: **5 Nov 1899**Died: **20 Apr 1992**State (Year) **Iowa (1956-1957)**

SSN issued:

**Source Citation:** Number: *482-48-2986*; Issue State: *Iowa*; Issue Date: *1956-1957*.**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com. *Social Security Death Index* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2011.  
Original data: Social Security Administration. *Social Security Death Index, Master File*. Social Security Administration.

**Description:**

The Social Security Administration Death Master File contains information on millions of deceased individuals with United States social security numbers whose deaths were reported to the Social Security Administration. Birth years for the individuals listed range from 1875 to last year. Information in these records includes name, birth date, death date, and last known residence. [Learn more...](#)