

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Lawrence, Edna C. Senator _____

Represented Hopella County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 28. April 1906 Hopella County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Walter L. Lawrence 3 Feb 1934 Washington, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business In 1971 the first woman elected to head the Iowa Premier Lawmakers Association

B. Civic responsibilities County Council member; chairman; Red Cross; ISEA; NEA

C. Profession Real estate business; teacher; principal

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 52nd, 53rd General Assemblies 1949, 1951

6. Public Offices

A. Local Ottumwa board of education; Ottumwa city council where she was commissioner of finance and public safety 1951

B. State for State Congress on Health Planning Advisory Council 1973

C. National _____

7. Death 1 Mar 1978 Ottumwa, Iowa; Buried Ottumwa Cemetery, Ottumwa, Iowa

8. Children Neal Kay (Mrs. Benson); Matt III

9. Names of parents Jack and Elaine (Neal) Caldwell

10. Education _____

11. Degrees Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Northeast
Missouri State Teachers College, Kirksville, Missouri;
Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa BA in 1964

12. Other applicable information Republican

- She was the former Appello County Republican Central
Committee chairman; former advertising manager for the
Ottumwa Courier and public relations director at Ottumwa
Height College

Edna C. Lawrence, former state representative, dies

Former state representative, city commissioner and school board member Edna C. Lawrence, 71, of 110 Shaul Ave. died at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in Good Samaritan Center.

She was born in Wapello County on April 28, 1906, to Jack and Elsie Neal Caldwell. She attended Iowa State



Edna Lawrence

She was elected to the Iowa Legislature where she served in the 52nd, 52nd special and 53rd General Assemblies.

She resigned from the Legislature when she was elected to the Ottumwa City Council as commissioner of finance and public safety in 1951. During her tenure there, she inaugurated one-way streets in downtown Ottumwa and instituted an extensive street-widening program.

Mrs. Lawrence owned and operated a real estate business, taught at Eldon, Eddyville, Selma and Agency, was acting principal of Cardinal Junior High School and was president of Cardinal Community School Classroom Teachers Organization.

In 1971, she was the first woman elected to head Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers Association. She was appointed by Gov. Robert Ray to the state's Comprehensive Health Planning Advisory Council in 1973.

In civic activities, she was Wapello County Cancer Crusade chairman in 1975 and a member of New Century Club, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Wapello County Chapter of the American Red Cross, Iowa State Education Association, National Education Association and

Professional Women's Club.

She was a past president of Wapello County Republican Women's Club and spoke often about politics and government at PTA meetings, to church circles and with juvenile and community clubs and organizations.

She married Matt L. Lawrence Feb. 3, 1934, at Washington. Lawrence is a former Wapello County Republican Central Committee chairman, former advertising manager for the Ottumwa Courier and public relations director at Ottumwa Heights College.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Neala Kay Benson of Ames; a son, Matt III of Bismarck, N.D.; four grandchildren; and a brother, Lester Caldwell of Fort Madison.

Services: 1:30 p.m. Friday at her church, First United Methodist Church, with the Revs. Charles Rinkel and Paul Donohue officiating. Burial is to be in Ottumwa Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Gerald Moriarity, Richard Hammond, Dr. Harry Wing, Jim Vogt, Jeff Benson and David Caldwell. A memorial has been established for First United Methodist Church.

The family will be at Jay Funeral Home from 7 to 9 p.m. tonight. The casket will be closed.

Teachers College at Cedar Falls and Northeast Missouri State Teachers College at Kirksville.

More than 38 years after attending college at Cedar Falls, in 1964, she received a bachelor's degree from Parsons College.

Mrs. Lawrence was the first woman president of the Ottumwa Board of Education.

Abortion funding argued

DES MOINES (AP) — The state should fund abortions for a poor woman whose life is endangered, the fetus is damaged or rape or incest is involved, the Senate decided Wednesday.

"I want no money — mine, yours or any other citizen's — to be spent for abortion," said Sen. Bob Carr, D-Dubuque, said as he proposed permitting state-paid abortions for poor women only when their lives are in danger.

"I cannot believe that this Senate will tell a woman who is raped and becomes pregnant that we will not pay for that

abortion," said Sen. Earl Willits, D-Des Moines. "I cannot believe we will tell her 'You must find someone who will pay for it or have the child'."

The Senate took several key votes on abortions that will be permitted under Medicaid as it began work on a \$220 million package to fund the State Social Services Department for the coming year.

None of those votes were successful in changing the abortion guidelines written by a budget subcommittee.

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