

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Mc Murray,  
Pearl Wayland - Represented Wayne and Lucas Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 29 Apr 1906 Promise City, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Jennie Pauline Littrell Nov 1944 Austin, Texas

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was a member of the Iowa Bar Association;  
he was admitted to the bar in 1936

B. Civic responsibilities American Legion; Mason; Rotary  
Farm Bureau; ROT in college; Wayne County Historical Society; Eastern Star

C. Profession Attorney

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 53rd General Assembly 1949

6. Public Offices

A. Local Wayne County attorney for 2 terms; member of Wayne County  
board of social welfare; member of Corydon

B. State

C. National Member of the American Bar Association

7. Death 8 Aug 2003 Corydon, Iowa

8. Children Martha (Mrs. Gregory Hoover)

9. Names of parents John Arthur and Margjorie (Baker) Mc Murray

McMurray, Paul W.

10. Education He was educated in Wright Township rural schools of Wayne County, Iowa and Corydon, Iowa High School graduating in 1924

11. Degrees B.A. degree of the University of Iowa and J. D. degree from University of Iowa College of Law 1936

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He taught in rural schools in Iowa and Montana
- He practiced law in Corydon, Iowa
- Military services - Army Air Forces, commissioned in the Army in 1934, called to active duty in August 1941, attended Command and General Staff school at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and Navy School of Military Government in Princeton, New Jersey. He went to Japan with the occupation forces and served in the war crimes section of Tokyo, Japan released from active duty in March 1946
- In 1936, he set up a law practice in Corydon with Keith Gorge. He served as Wayne County Attorney 1939-1942
- His law partner Keith Gorge, was killed in WW II so Paul returned to Corydon and practiced alone.



# Obituaries



**PEARL WAYLAND  
MCMURRY**

Pearl Wayland McMurry was born April 29, 1906, to John Arthur and Marjorie Elizabeth (Rakes) McMurry between Promise City and Confidence, in Wayne County, Iowa. He died on Friday, August 8, 2003, at the Corydon Nursing and Rehab Center, Corydon, at the age of 97 years, 3 months and 9 days of kidney failure and old age.

As a boy Pearl attended a one-room school house, helped his family work the farm, and enjoyed activities with his parents, brothers, extended family and friends who lived around the Wright and Union townships. He took a room in Corydon to attend high school and graduated from Corydon High School in 1924.

Following graduation he spent the next 12 years attending the University of Iowa when he could and trying to help his family keep the farm as the Depression took over. He also traveled west to live near Red Lodge, Mont., staying with ranch families while he taught in a rural school house. He persevered with his education, paying his tuition by stoking furnaces, working in the university hospital kitchen and taking other odd jobs, and by receiving support from his large, extended family who sacrificed to keep him in college. He graduated with a BA in history in 1934 and attended the University of Iowa Law School, obtaining his JD degree in 1936. He was admitted to the bar that same year and set up a law practice in Corydon, with Keith E. George, who was also from Wayne

County. Pearl served as Wayne County Attorney from 1939 to 1942 and was active in many community organizations.

He was in ROTC in college, and on August 22, 1941, he was assigned to the Army Air Corps basic flying school in Randolph Field, Texas, as First Lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps. He was a military government legal officer during the war and on August 19, 1945, after V-J Day, he was sent to Tokyo. He served with the War Crimes Section, Supreme Control Allied Powers under General Douglas MacArthur and helped make preparations for the Japanese war crimes trials. He returned to the United States at the end of the year. He continued to serve in the Iowa National Guard and retired as a Brigadier General.

World War II changed the course of his life by allowing him to meet Jamie Pauline Luttrell, a WAAC from Tennessee. The fact that Captain Luttrell out-ranked him at the time did not deter his interest in her and they were married in Austin, Texas, on Nov. 1, 1944, to the surprise of Pearl's family and friends. Pearl and Jamie celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1994.

After his law partner, Keith George, was killed in World War II Pearl returned to Corydon and had a solo practice. His office was in the Corydon State Bank building.

He served his state and community in several positions. He was an active and enthusiastic member of the Republican Party and was elected State Senator of the Fourth Iowa District in 1948. Governor Beardsley appointed him Iowa Commissioner of Public Safety before his senate term expired, and he served in that position until 1955. He returned to his law practice in Corydon and was elected Mayor of Corydon as a write-in candidate in 1956 and served as mayor until 1969.

He was active in many organizations including the American Legion, Rotary International, American Bar Association, Masons, Wayne County Historical Society and University of Iowa Alumni Association. He was a life-long member of the Corydon United Methodist Church and was a regular cook at the weekly Methodist men breakfasts and at the monthly American Legion dinners. He was the Corydon Old Settler of the year in 1988.

Pearl loved Wayne County and its people, and greeted everyone with "Hi neighbor!" He loved campfires, hickory nuts, snow, collecting coins and stamps, and natural beauty. He greatly admired Abraham Lincoln. He enjoyed traveling around the United States, especially the Rocky Mountains and the southwestern canyons, but his favorite place was always Wayne County. For years he kept a milk cow within the Corydon city limits. He also loved family gatherings, community activities, the Fourth of July, the Iowa Hawkeyes, dogs, horses, the Corydon elk herd, Bob Jackson's buffalo herd, champagne and Chivas Regal. For years he raised the American flag in front of his house every morning.

He was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, infant siblings including brother Ercole and un-

named twins; brothers Earl L. and J. Ardys; sister-in-law Mary, grandson Nathan Thomas, great-nephew James; and many good friends.

Survivors include his daughter Martha, and her husband, Gregory Thomas; and grandson, Benjamin, all of Portland, Ore.; sister-in-law Alice McMurry, Promise City; nephew Earl W. McMurry, Promise City; great-nephew, John S. McMurry; and John's mother, Entys McMurry of Corydon; plus other relatives and friends.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 23, 2003, at 2 p.m. from the Randolph Funeral Home, Corydon.

## CLEVA O. OWENS

Cleva O. Owens, age 79 of Centerville, died Monday, Aug. 10, 2003, at Mercy Medical Center, Centerville.

Cleva was born in Cincinnati on April 14, 1924, to William and Martha (Marcum) Owens. He worked for the city of Rockford, Ill., street department for 30 years and then retired back to Cincinnati in 1982.

Cleva was a member of the Rockford Masonic Lodge #102 in Rockford.

He is survived by one brother, Robert, Independence, Mo., eight nieces and one nephew.

Cleva was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, William and Otis.

There was a graveside service on

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# Individual Record

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 **Pearl MCMURRY**

**Birth Date:** 29 Apr 1906  
**Death Date:** 8 Aug 2003  
**Social Security Number:** 484-32-4474  
**State or Territory Where Number Was Issued:** Iowa

**Death Residence Localities**

**ZIP Code:** 97232  
**Localities:** Portland, Multnomah, Oregon

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