

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Vermeer; Elmer H. "Dutch" Senator

Served from Marion County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 7 June 1920 near Pella, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Jeanette Vivian Lankelma 20 Sept 1946 Pella, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Board of director of Pella National Bank

B. Civic responsibilities American Legion; Junior Bureau

C. Profession Farmer; nurseryman

4. Church membership Reformed Church

5. Sessions served 55th, 56th, 57th General Assemblies 1953-1958

6. Public Offices 59th, 60th General Assemblies 1961-1964

A. Local Central College trustee

B. State Aide to Governor Robert D. Ray

C. National

7. Death 23 May 1989 Pella, Iowa; buried Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Iowa

8. Children Thomas E.; Richard L.; William H.; James E.; Ann (Mrs. Stienstra)

9. Names of parents Jacob G. and Anna (Haven) Vermeer

Vermeer, Elmer H.

10. Education Education in public schools of Pella, Iowa
graduating in 1938

11. Degrees Central College, Pella, Iowa
Calvin College, Michigan

12. Other applicable information Republican

- Military service - WWII U. S. Army Corps of Engineers 4 1/2 years;
He served as a demolition officer with the 2nd Ranger
Battalion in the European Theater

ed near Irvington, died Monday after the tractor he was operating rolled over.

• A man who died in an accident near Eddyville Monday was identified as Larry Leroy Brown, 44, of Osaloosa.

• Arla Ruth Sprague, 46, of Delmar died Sunday after her auto crossed into the path of a car driven by Mary Vance, 32, south of Delmar. Vance, of rural Delmar, was in critical condition Tuesday at an Iowa City hospital.

• Gerald Tjaden, 62, of rural Clarksville died Sunday when he was pinned by the bucket of a skid loader he was using to remove a stump.

Drunken driver sentenced to 7 years for fatal crash

The Register's Iowa News Service

LAMONT, IA. — A Lamont man has been sentenced to seven years in prison in connection with a September car accident that killed three Aurora residents.

Robert Edward McDowell, 31, was charged with second-offense drunken driving and three counts of vehicular homicide after an accident Sept. 16 south of Aurora that killed Melvin and Laura Burco and Coleen Koch.

McDowell was sentenced in Buchanan County District Court to five years on the vehicular homicide charges and two years on the drunken driving charge.

Grant will help schools buy information systems

The Register's Iowa News Service

DECORAH, IA. — Luther College and the Decorah School District have received a \$50,000 grant from the Iowa Department of Education for a project to give students new types of access to educational material.

With the grant, the Decorah schools will develop four model classrooms in which teachers and students will use computers to retrieve information stored electronically on video-discs, computer data files and read-only compact discs.

being held at Polk County Jail on \$57,500 bond.

Lee, unable to speak because of her injuries, Monday jotted notes providing details of the attack to Polk County Sheriff's Department detectives. Authorities said Monday's interview with Lee was "relatively brief" and they hope to learn more when Lee's condition improves.

She was in serious condition Tuesday, and authorities expected her to

for the Polk County Sheriff's Department. He would not say whether weapons were among the items.

According to detectives, Lee met a man near Seventh and Crocker streets and voluntarily went with him in his car. Lee was driven by the man to the 4400 block of Northeast 54th Avenue, near the Avenue Frederick M. Hubbell interchange with Interstate 80.

Investigators said the man ordered

attack occurred found her about ly after she st ment. She had way in an eastl was in danger she was rescue

Lee describ white man fro about 6 feet 1 hair.

Lee told inve

WWII hero, top Ray aide Vermeer dies

By WALT SHOTWELL

Register Staff Writer

Elmer H. "Dutch" Vermeer of Pella, one of Iowa's most honored World War II heroes and a top aide to former Gov. Robert Ray, died of emphysema Tuesday at his rural Pella home. He was 68.



ELMER "DUTCH" VERMEER

the Silver Star.

As a Republican politician, Vermeer served 10 years in the Iowa House of Representatives, leaving office in 1964. But in 1968, Vermeer — by all odds one of Iowa's most conservative leaders — was asked to co-chair the gubernatorial campaign of a young moderate, Bob Ray.

"I was the most surprised guy in Iowa," Vermeer told friends who

VERMEER-

Please turn to Page 7M

School bus driver

By PATRICK BEACH and MARY CHALLENGER

Register Staff Writers

A substitute bus driver for Wayne Community School District has been fired after he allowed nine children between the ages of 7 and 14 to leave the bus about seven miles from their homes last week.

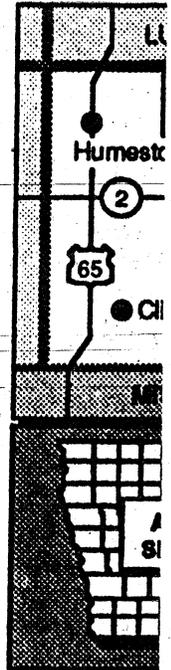
"To the best of my knowledge, he let kids off in a way he shouldn't have let them off in," Superintendent Charlie Frizzell of Corydon said of driver Bob Engle. "He won't be driving anymore."

Engle denies that he did anything improper or that he'd been fired. He said no action on the matter would be taken until the district's June school board meeting.

According to some of the children and their parents, Engle of Corydon stopped the bus because the students were too noisy and let the children off to walk.

Heather Niday, 11, of Allerton said the trouble began about five minutes into the bus ride home from Wayne Community High School in Corydon, where all the district's students board buses.

She said Engle pulled over at the elementary school and refused to move the bus again until the chil-



dren on the b "The kids his fingers b 'Wake me up quiet," said Niday.

Heather s ing because on the radi

World War II hero, top Ray aide Vermeer dies

VERMEER

Continued from Page 1M

gathered at Terrace Hill in the spring of 1981, when Vermeer retired. At that farewell party he confessed that he struggled with his decision to join Ray because the two seemed poles apart politically. But, the unlikely pair made history; Ray was governor for a record 14 years, and Vermeer was with him for 13 of those years.

Vermeer was born and reared on a Marion County farm near Pella.

He attended Pella High School, where he wanted to try out for athletic teams. But the two-mile walk — four miles a day — to and from school left him too little time, so his interest turned to hunting.

Vermeer's father taught him how to use black powder to reload shotgun shells, but he and a brother discovered another use for it. Told to cut up a downed cottonwood tree, the two boys discovered that they could drill holes in the logs, fill them with black powder and split the logs with a blast.

Later, as a demolitions officer in the elite U.S. Army Rangers, Vermeer fought in some of World War II's bloodiest battles. Vermeer's outfit hit the Normandy beaches, suffering 75 percent casualties. Vermeer's Silver Star citation gives some idea of the intensity of that action:

"Having landed the preceding day on the strongly fortified enemy-held beach, 1st Lt. Vermeer volunteered to lead a patrol ... to destroy an enemy observation post which had held out against previous assaults for 36 hours. Under devastating fire and subject to constantly exploding grenades, [Vermeer], accompanied by another, moved forward while covered by the remainder of the patrol and succeeded in placing a heavy charge of fused TNT in an aperture in the observation post. The resulting explosion destroyed three of the ene-

my and allowed [Vermeer] to capture eight others."

In 1946, Vermeer returned home to farm and raise a family. He had attended Central College in Pella for two years and Calvin College in Michigan for a time, but he had no degree. He often told friends that he regarded this as a shortcoming, but friends and critics credited Vermeer with good judgment and an exceptional ability to get things done.

Eventually, he became a Central College trustee, served on the Pella National Bank's board of directors and the Reformed Church's consistory and was involved with Pella's historical activities.

While in the governor's office, Vermeer was old enough to be the father of other aides, but he won their respect and Ray referred to him as a "balancing wheel" for an otherwise young staff. One of those young aides, David Oman, said recently that "after you literally go hand to hand with the Nazis, nothing that happened around the Statehouse ever bothered Dutch a whole lot. He was good for all of us to have around."

In the early 1980s, Vermeer's health began to fail; doctors said he had chronic heart and respiratory problems. Vermeer once told a friend that, in his waking hours, he had "smoked a cigarette every 20 minutes for 50 years."

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at the Second Reformed Church in Pella with burial in Oakwood Cemetery. Friends may call at the Vandyk-Duven Funeral Home in Pella today or Thursday. The family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanette of Pella; four sons, Tom of Mount Pleasant, Richard of Davenport, Bill of Ames and Jim of Cedar Rapids; a daughter, Ann Stienstra of Cedar Rapids; three brothers, Gary, John H. and Harry, all of Pella, and eight grandchildren.

Centerville teacher suspended for month

A Centerville High School teacher has been suspended for a month without pay after a parent reportedly ac-

tion against Pauley, a teacher at Centerville High for 13 years, had been based on the recommendation

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Source: Iowa Territorial and State Registrars Collection, compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa

Vermeer services today

Elmer H. "Dutch" Vermeer, one of Iowa's top honored World War II heroes and a top aid to former Gov. Robert Ray, died of emphysema in his Pella home Tuesday, May 23. He was 68.

As a demolitions officer in the U.S. Army Rangers, Vermeer fought in some of WWII's bloodiest battles. His unit suffered a 75 percent casualty loss when it hit the Normandy beaches. Vermeer volunteered to lead a patrol to destroy an enemy observation post, which had held out against previous assaults for 36 hours. Under heavy fire and exploding grenades,

Vermeer and another soldier placed a charge of fused TNT in an opening in the observation post. The explosion killed three of the enemy and allowed eight others to be captured. Vermeer was awarded the Silver Star for his action.

As a Republican politician, Vermeer served 10 years in the Iowa House of Representatives. After his retirement, Robert Ray asked him to co-chair the gubernatorial campaign. Ray was governor for 14 years, and Vermeer was with him for 13 years. He retired in 1981.

In the early 1980s, Vermeer's health began to fail. Doctors said he had chronic heart and respiratory problems.

Services for Vermeer will be Friday, May 26, 11 a.m., at the Second Reformed Church. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

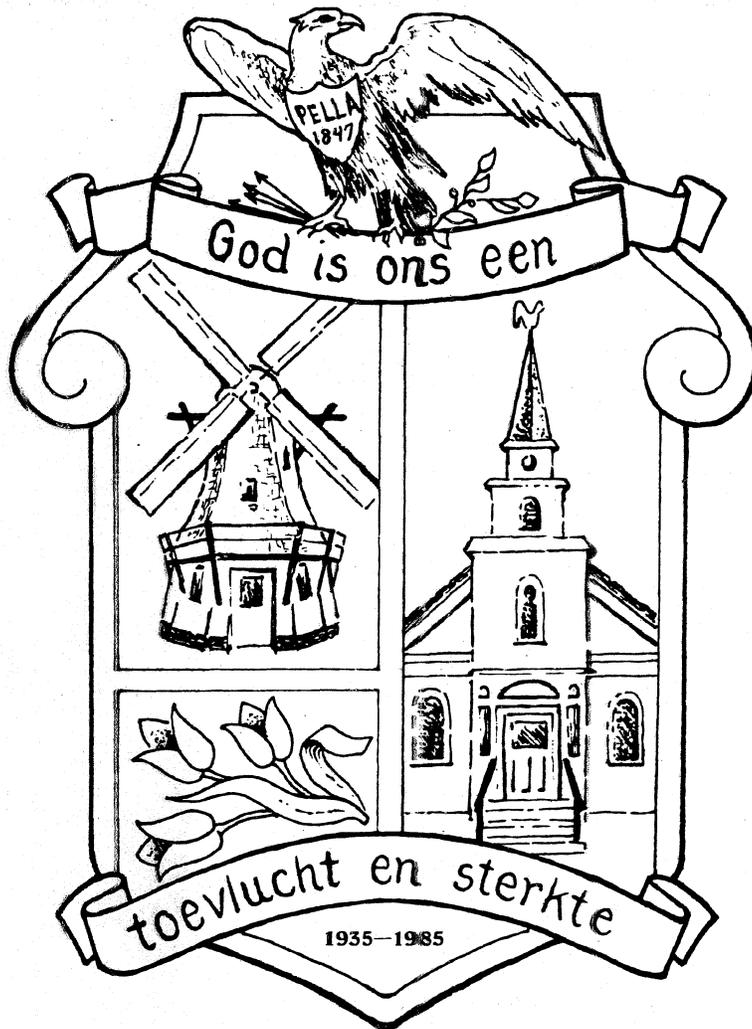
Vermeer is survived by his wife, Jeanette; four sons, Tom of Mount Pleasant, Richard of Davenport, Bill of Ames and Jim of Cedar Rapids; a daughter, Ann Stienstra of Cedar Rapids; three brothers, Gary, John H. and Harry of Pella; and eight grandchildren.

Van Weelden to address

class at commencement

History of Pella, Iowa

1847 - 1987



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Pella Historical Society
Pella, Iowa

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VERMEER, BRANT

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a one-room log cabin had been built. The cabin, which is described as having a large fireplace at the south end, sleeping quarters on the second floor, reached from the outside by means of a ladder, was lighted by tallow candles made by Mrs. Vermeer. In this crude home the family lived for 12 years.

Farming in their new world meant unremittent toil. The sod, which needed to be broken for cultivation, was thick, tough, and required a strong plow drawn by six oxen to tear it up. Much work, including harvesting, was done by hand. Wildlife, turkeys, ducks, deer, and quail were important sources of food. Their presence, however, had its drawbacks, for Brant Vermeer is said to have lost his first harvest of corn to the deer and turkeys.

In 1867 Brant Vermeer purchased a 160-acre farm, one of the finest in the East Prairie Region, a mile nearer to Pella. After Anthonie was married, Brant moved to Pella. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Vermeer lived in the 900 block of Broadway in a house still standing on the west side of the street.

Whether or not Mr. and Mrs. Vermeer had joined the Secession of 1834 in The Netherlands, we do not know. We do know they took their religion seriously and, upon arrival in Pella, identified themselves with the independent church of the Reverend Scholte. When the Christian Reformed Church was organized, they transferred their allegiance to this body.

Brant Vermeer was born on Jan. 2, 1798, and died May 5, 1872. His wife, Teunetje Krukland Pothoven Vermeer was born on Dec. 30, 1805, and passed away on Jan. 24, 1890. They are buried in Black Oak Cemetery. Two of their sons, Anthonie and Gerrit, are twins. They shared Oct. 14, 1843, as their birthday. Anthonie died on Dec. 17, 1920. He and his wife, Alida De Bruin, had eight sons: Brant, Jacob, Tunis, Will, Otto, John, Gerrit, and Neal. Mrs. Vermeer passed away on Dec. 18, 1915.

Gerrit married Hendrika De Bruin. The father of one son, Jacob G., and five daughters: twins Tonnetta, Mrs. Adrian (Jim) Van Houweling and Minnie, Mrs. Peter Tysseling; Bertha, Mrs. Art B. Van Donselaar; Jennie, Mrs. Nickolas Meppelink; and Mattie, Mrs. Henry Jansen. Gerrit Vermeer died on May 30, 1923. Mrs. Vermeer preceded him by 28 years, passing away on Mar. 30, 1895.

Hendrick, born Dec. 5, 1845, married Johanna Coeling on May 9, 1873. He died July 30, 1927, and Mrs. Vermeer on Nov. 21, 1937. Their children were: Tonia, who lived less than two years; Willem; Tonia (Nettie), Mrs. Cornelius Huyser; Brandius (Bert); Roelena (Lena), Mrs. Jacob G. Vanden Bosch; Henry; and John Paul (Paul). Hendrick Vermeer passed away on July 30, 1927; Mrs. Vermeer, on Nov. 21, 1937.

The material on Brant Vermeer was taken from the Vermeer History, published by Gary and Harry Vermeer in 1963 and written by Mrs. John C. Vander Hart (Ruth Tysseling); Professor J.G. Vanden Bosch (deceased); and Stanley J. Vermeer.

by Elmer Vermeer



Brant Vermeer, his wife and four sons came to Pella in 1847 from Mooi, Lunteren, The Netherlands. His wife was Teuntje Pothoven. They were on the ocean 48 days in a small sailing vessel. Food was scarce and bad, and much illness was on board. The trip from New York to Iowa City was made by train. There they bought a yoke of oxen, a team of horses and two wagons. Roads were rough and muddy. Otto Hendrick, a small boy of eleven, wandered off and was later found by other travelers and returned to the Dutch wagon train.

In 1867, Brant Vermeer purchased 300 acres of land one mile east and one mile north of Pella. This has remained in the family to this day. Brant Vermeer had four sons: Otto; Anthonie; Gerrit; and Hendrick.

Hendrick, later Henry H., youngest son of Brant, was married to Johanna Pauline Coeling in 1873. From this union were born seven children: Tonia, Willem, Tonia 2nd, Brandius, Rolena, Otto, and Paul.

Otto Hendrick, (Henry H.) married Nettie Bogaard in 1912. From this union three children were born: Johanna Pauline, Earl Nicholas, and Henry Willard. The family lived on a farm two miles east of Pella known as the Muchikanoch Farm. On it is located a spring which is the beginning of Muchikanoch Creek that flows into the Des Moines River. In 1947 Hendrick and his wife moved to Pella and resided there until their death. One son, Earl Nicholas, attended Pella Community Schools. His sister, Johanna Pauline also attended Pella Community Schools. J. Pauline went into nursing and later married Nicholas Jelles of Grand Rapids, Mich. Earl N. went on to Central College and then was drafted into the U.S. Air Force in 1941. He was stationed at Williams Field, Ariz. for four years and three months. After returning home he married Etta Joan Kallemyrn of Pella. Earl began work at the Vermeer Manufacturing Company when that company was formed. In 1956 he joined the Marion County State Bank of Pella and became the manager of the unique "Windmill Bank". Earl is a member of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella, American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the Salvation Army, and member of the Pella Historical Society.

His wife Etta Joan is Elementary Librarian at Lincoln School and active in civic and school activities. She is also a member of First Christian Reformed Church and very active in politics. Earl and Etta Joan have three girls: Barbara, flight attendant with Pan American Airways; Debra Billingsley, of Fairfield, Ia., a teacher there and married to James Billingsley, Vice-President of Dexter Manufacturing Company. They have two girls: Laura Janelle; and Kristen Sue. Beverly Wagner, of Marengo, is a teacher and is married to John Wagner, a lawyer - judge. They have a daughter, Sarah Jo, and a son Daniel. All three girls graduated from Central College of Pella, Ia., and were active in local and school activities.

Earl reminisces about his boyhood days in Pella when the family would spend a whole day with relatives fishing in the Skunk River. A feast was then had by all. As a boy, he and his father would hitch up the wagon with

wheat and take it to the Blommer's Mill to have it ground into flour. Earl had a pony cart and two ponies and would gather neighborhood children for rides. On Sundays the family would go by horse and a surrey to church. Services were in the Dutch language and lasted two hours. Many times the family would stay in town with relatives for dinner and then attend the afternoon services again.

As a boy, Earl remembers the excitement of threshing time. Then relatives would combine work and share the threshing machine. Earl remembers being a water boy and running errands from house to machine. Later when he was older he would run the bundle wagon. The weather would be hot and the chaff would cling to one's skin. In those early days all work was done with horses and few machines. Work on the farm improved greatly by the time Earl was ten years old. There were more machines and it required less time to do the field work. Winters were the least desired; stoves would go out during the night leaving it cold to dress in the morning. Water had to be chopped free from ice to obtain it, and hands would be rough and sore. But when summer came all that would be forgotten, and many enjoyable times were had.

Those early days are memorable in many ways, but life was not easy and lacked many conveniences. One likes to reminisce about those days but not to relive them.

by Mrs. Earl (Etta) Ver Meer

VERMEER, ELMER H.

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Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Vermeer

September 20, 1946, was the wedding day for Elmer Harry Vermeer and Jeannette Vivian Lankelma. Elmer (Dutch) Vermeer is the son of Jacob (J.G.) and Anna Haven Vermeer. Dutch, two months premature, was born on his mother's 25th birthday. There are four brothers in the family: Gary J., co-founder and chairman of the board of

Vermeer Manufacturing; John H., co-founder and present owner of the Pella Nursery Company; Dutch, retired; and Harry G., owner and chairman of the board of the Marion County State Bank. All four still live in Pella, and all of them attended Plain View School through the eighth grade.

Dutch graduated from Pella High School in 1938 and attended Central College for two years and Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich., for one year prior to enlisting in the regular army in the summer of 1941. He was stationed at Fort Belvoir, Va., where he entered officer's training school and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant. Dutch was assigned to the 2nd Engineer Battalion of the 2nd Division, quartered at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Tex. From there the Division was moved to Camp McCoy, Wis.

Following the winter maneuvers in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the 2nd Division was sent overseas and landed in Northern Ireland in the fall of 1943. In January of 1944, Dutch volunteered and joined the 2nd Ranger Battalion as their demolitions officer in Bude, England. He made the landing at Pointe du Hoc on the Normandy Coast on D-Day, June 6, 1944, with the Rangers and was awarded the Silver Star for blowing up the observation post on the Pointe. He fought through Brittany, Northern France and the Battle of the Bulge and was in Czechoslovakia on V-E Day.

Separated from the service, Dutch began farming first with brother John H., and then on his own when he and his wife moved to a farm about four miles west of Pella on Highway 163. His wife, Jeannette (Jay) Lankelma, born Apr. 23, 1924, was the daughter of James V. and Ethel Guthrie Lankelma. Dr. Lankelma was a practicing dentist in Pella for 57 years, and Mrs. Lankelma was the first home economics teacher in the Pella Public School system. The Lankelmas had three children: Jeannette, the eldest; Ethel Ione, Mrs. E.M. Piche, born Sept. 8, 1926; and John William (Bill), born Oct. 4, 1927. Ione lives in Elmhurst, Ill., and Bill in Marshalltown, Ia.

The Vermeers have five children: Thomas E. (Tom), born Oct. 26, 1948; Richard L., June 4, 1950; William H. (Bill), Nov. 1, 1951; James E. (Jim), Apr. 2, 1955; and Ann Kathryn Vermeer Stienstra, Aug. 21, 1958. Tom and Sharman Lange Vermeer live in Mt. Pleasant, Ia., with their two children: Lucas James, born Apr. 19, 1974; and Mary Cathryn (Katie), Dec. 16, 1977. Tom is an accountant with the Crystal Forest Company of Fairfield, Ia., and Sharman is a teacher.

Richard and Kathleen (Kathy) Kessler Vermeer live in Davenport, Ia., where Dr. Richard is in charge of the emergency services at St. Luke's Hospital. They have four children: Anthony James, born Nov. 30, 1966; Carol Anne, July 17, 1968; Monica Brooke, Mar. 20, 1970; and Nicholas Kessler, June 2, 1978. Bill and Janice (Jan) Utter Vermeer live in Chandler, Ariz. They have one daughter, Jeanna Marie, born on June 4, 1973. Bill is employed as an engineer with Garret Engineering of Phoenix, Ariz., and Jan is a respiratory therapist.

Jim and Kimberlee (Kim) Miller Vermeer have one son, Brant, born on Mar. 31, 1984, named for his great-great-grandfather, Brant Vermeer. Jim is a production engineer for Iowa Electric Light and Power, and Kim is a business manager for the Iowa State

in Cedar Rapids, Ia. Ann, born Aug. 21, 1958, and her husband, Wayne D. Stienstra, also live in Cedar Rapids. Ann is a traffic engineer for Teleconnect, and Wayne is a carpenter.

The family moved from the farm home on the highway in 1958 to their present home three-quarters of a mile south. In 1953 Dutch was elected to the Iowa Legislature on the Republican ticket. He served in the House of Representatives five terms and as Speaker Pro Tem in 1957. In 1960 he was instrumental in founding the Pella Nursery Company with his brother, John H., and Earl L. Pohlmann. The partnership was terminated in 1971 when John acquired sole ownership.

Dutch served as co-chairman for Robert D. Ray's campaign for Governor of Iowa in 1968. When Ray took office, he appointed Dutch one of his administrative assistants, in which capacity he served until 1981. He was the Governor's liaison with a great number of state departments, including the Iowa National Guard, Liquor Control Commission, Public Safety, State Conservation Commission, and the Historical Departments. He was also the liaison with the Legislature.

Dutch has been a member of the board of the Pella National Bank and a member of the board of trustees of Central College for many years. In 1980 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Central for the work he had done toward the passage of the Iowa Tuition Grant Program. A firm believer in the conservation of the land, he has been a member of the Marion County Conservation Board. He has been both an elder and deacon in the Second Reformed Church of Pella and is also a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. An active Republican, he has served as both a precinct committeeman and Marion County Republican Chairman. A long-time member of the Pella Historical Society, he is presently an ex-officio member of the board, and is a member of the Iowa State Historical Society.

A life-member and past president of the Ranger Battalions Association of World War II, since 1969 Dutch has attended every 5-year D-Day celebration held on the Normandy Coast on June 6. He was present in 1984 when President Ronald Reagan spoke to those gathered at the Pointe for the 40th Anniversary of the landings.

Jeannette (Jay) Lankelma Vermeer was named for a great-aunt, Jeannette Lankelma Geelhoed (Mrs. Herman). Jay graduated from Pella High School with the Class of 1942 and from Central College in 1946 with a major in history. In May 1943, Ruth Klein Green, now living in Holland, Mich., was the Tulip Queen. Jay, along with Carol Cook Pohlman, of Pella, Virginia Carpenter Ver Ploeg, West Des Moines, Ia., and Madeline Diekema Yohr, Grants Pass, Ore., were her attendants.

During the 1944-45 school year, when she was a college junior, Jay taught in the Grand River, Ia., High School on an emergency certificate. An active Camp Fire Girl, she enjoyed spending a part of her summers at Camp Hantesa, Boone, Ia. This interest in youth activities continued as her children were growing up, and Jay became a Boy Scout and Camp Fire leader on their behalf.

From 1964 until 1983, Jay was the Alumni Director at Central College. These were 19 very happy years. While she was Alumni Director, Homecoming activities were expanded, Parents Weekend was instituted, the

Thomas Cook, toured Yucatan, and the A Cappella Choir, with Professor Laurence Grooters, director, sang concerts in Europe. Tour groups to Yucatan and Europe, comprised of alumni and friends of Central, were organized by the Alumni Office.

Jay and her sister and brother are fourth generation members of the Second Reformed Church where she continues an active interest and is a member of the Ladies Aid. She has been a member of Chapter BU, P.E.O. for almost 45 years and has served in more than one office. She is also a 25-year member of The Ladies Social and Literary Society (Reading Circle), was a member of The Ladies Legislative League and of the Women's Republican Club of Iowa.

She shares her husband's interest in the Iowa-Yucatan Partners of the Americas and in the Pella Historical Society. Jay served on the Bicentennial Committee that planned the local celebration of the 200-year relationship between the United States and the Netherlands in 1982. In this capacity, she was able to attend a party in Chicago, Ill., at which Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus, of The Netherlands, were honored guests. When Pella celebrated the 50th Tulip Time anniversary, she had the privilege of serving on the committee and is presently involved in preparations for celebrating the 150th anniversary of Pella's founding (1847-1997) and is serving on the History Book Committee.

by Elmer Vermeer

VERMEER, GARY AND MATILDA

F769

Gary J. Vermeer was born Sept. 29, 1918, on the same farm where his father, Jacob G. Vermeer, was born. This farm is two miles east of Pella and his brother John H. lives there now. This farm is also the Pella



Matilda and Gary Vermeer
Photo provided by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

State of Iowa

1990

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

1990
REGULAR SESSION
SEVENTY-THIRD
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Convened January 8, 1990
Adjourned April 8, 1990

Volume II
March 26 - April 8

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, Governor
JO ANN ZIMMERMAN, President of the Senate
DONALD D. AVENSON, Speaker of the House

Published by the
STATE OF IOWA
Des Moines

Mr. Pierson was a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Oskaloosa; he served on the Salvation Army Board, the William Penn College Board of Trustees, the Quad County Grain Board of Directors; and was a member of the Rotary Club, the Men's Club, the Penn College Alumni Club, the Mahaska County Ag Council, the Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee, the YMCA Finance Committee, the Community YMCA Council, and International Flying Farmers. He was active on the Mahaska County Republican Central Committee and organized the Summer Sweet Corn and Chicken Roast.

A Republican, Mr. Pierson represented Keokuk, Mahaska, and Monroe Counties during the Sixty-second, Sixty-third and Sixty-fourth General Assemblies.

George N. Pierson died on August 26, 1989. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth of Carol Stream, Illinois; his two sons: Royce of Oskaloosa and Arvid "Shorty" of Pella; his stepdaughter, Judy Pickem, of Wheaton, Illinois; a brother, Robert of Oskaloosa; seven grandchildren, three steep-grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-third General Assembly of Iowa, That in the passing of the Honorable George N. Pierson, the State has lost an honored citizen and a faithful and useful public servant, and the House by this Resolution would express its appreciation of his service.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House, and that the Chief Clerk be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

HAROLD VAN MAANEN
PHIL TYRRELL
ROBERT KISTLER

Committee

ELMER H. VERMEER

Mr. Speaker: Your committee, appointed to prepare a suitable resolution commemorating the life, character, and public service of the late Honorable Elmer H. "Dutch" Vermeer begs leave to submit the following Memorial:

Elmer H. Vermeer was born on June 7, 1920 on a farm near Pella in Marion County. On September 20, 1946 he married Jeanette V. Lankelma of Pella and they had four sons and one daughter.

Mr. Vermeer served as a Ranger in the United States Army from 1941 to 1946 and was awarded the Silver Star. Following his discharge from the Army he owned and operated a livestock farm near Pella. He was a member of the Reformed Church, where he served on the consistory; the Central College Board of Trustees; the Pella National Bank Board of Directors; the American Legion; the V.F.W.; the Natural Heritage Foundation; the Marion County Conservation Board; the Iowa Nurserymen's Association; and the State of Iowa and Pella Historical Societies. He also served as National President of the Ranger Battalions' Association. During the administration of Governor Robert D. Ray, Mr. Vermeer served as one of the Governor's administrative assistants.

A Republican, Mr. Vermeer represented Marion County during the Fifty-fifth, Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh, Fifty-ninth, and Sixtieth General Assemblies.

Elmer H. Vermeer died on May 23, 1989. He is survived by his wife, Jeanette of Pella; four sons, Thomas of Mount Pleasant, Richard of Davenport, William of Des Moines, James of Cedar Rapids; and one daughter Ann Stienstra, also of Cedar Rapids.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-third General Assembly of Iowa, That in the passing of the Honorable Elmer H. Vermeer, the State has lost an honored citizen and a faithful and useful public servant, and the House by this Resolution would express its appreciation of his service.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House, and that the Chief Clerk be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

DAVID SCHRADER
DENNIS BLACK
HAROLD VAN MAANEN

Committee

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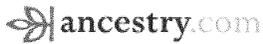
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You searched for **Elmer Vermeer** in **Iowa**

1930 United States Federal Census

Name:	Elmer H Vermeer	
Home in 1930:	Lake Prairie, Marion, Iowa	
	View Map	
Age:	9	
Estimated Birth Year:	abt 1921	
Relation to Head of House:	Son	
Father's Name:	Jacob C	
Mother's Name:	Anna	
Race:	White	
Occupation:		
Education:		
Military service:	View image	
Rent/home value:		
Age at first marriage:		
Parents' birthplace:		
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Jacob C Vermeer	47
	Anna Vermeer	34
	Gerrit J Vermeer	11
	Elmer H Vermeer	9
	John H Vermeer	4
		11/12
	Harry G Vermeer	1
		2/12

Source Citation: Year: 1930; Census Place: *Lake Prairie, Marion, Iowa*; Roll 668; Page: 5B; Enumeration District: 18; Image: 398.0.

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:
Containing records for approximately 123 million Americans, the 1930 United States Federal Census is the largest census released to date and is the most recent census available for public access. 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...](#)