

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Senator Shirley

Edwin Allen - Represented Dallas, Guthrie and Audubon Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 17 Nov 1937 Des Moines, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Vivian Ann 30 Aug 1959

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Received the Perry Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award in 2004.

B. Civic responsibilities Red Cross; Elks Lodge

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership \_\_\_\_\_

5. Sessions served 61<sup>st</sup>, 62<sup>nd</sup>, 63<sup>rd</sup> General Assemblies 1965, 1967, 1969-1970

6. Public Offices

A. Local Mayor of Perry 2002-2003; Dallas County Attorney 1976-1986; Perry city attorney 6 years

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

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

7. Death 20 Aug 2004 Des Moines, Iowa; buried Violet Hill Cemetery, Perry, Iowa

8. Children Elise (Mrs Paul Reiser); Jill

9. Names of parents Donald Joseph and Winifred Elizabeth (McCarthy) Shirley

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10. Education Educated in the schools of Perry, Iowa  
graduating in 1956

11. Degrees University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa BA  
Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa - Law degree 1963  
Drake University - MA in Public Administration

12. Other applicable information Democrat  
- A partner with the law firm of Shirley, Powell and  
Simmons until he retired due to illness



## EDWIN ALAN SHIRLEY

Perry



Perry, Iowa Mayor Edwin Alan "Pud" Shirley, 66, died August 20 at Iowa Methodist Hospital. A lifelong resident of Perry, Alan was well known for his graciousness, genuine like of people and his ready sense of humor. Those traits, coupled with a commitment to the community, kept Alan in public service throughout most of his professional life.

Alan was born on November 17, 1937 in Des Moines, Iowa to Donald Joseph and Winifred Elizabeth (McArthur) Shirley. He graduated from Perry High School in 1956, earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Iowa and his law degree from Drake University in Des Moines and a Masters Degree in Public Administration, also from Drake. Following family tradition, Alan made a run for the Iowa Legislature in 1964 and was elected as one of the youngest state senators in Iowa. He served in that capacity for six years. With the birth of his second daughter, Alan decided that politics on that level was too demanding on his family time and declined to run again.

In 1976, the call to public service beckoned again and he was elected Dallas County Attorney, a position he held for ten years. He later served as Perry City Attorney for six years.

After his first term as mayor of Perry, Iowa in 2002, days after Alan filed his nomination papers for his second term in office, he was diagnosed with acute myelogenous leukemia on September 17, 2003. He stayed on the ballot unopposed and continued to serve his second term even while undergoing treatment for the disease.

A lifelong passion was the Iowa Red Cross, where he volunteered for more than 25 years. He trained new members, traveled to Africa and Poland to deliver medical supplies, and taught international humanitarian law to members of the non-profit organization. Alan received numerous local chapter awards and was awarded the Red Cross State International Services Award.

Alan was a member of the Iowa Red Cross Board of Directors from 1988 to 2001 and served as board chair from 1993-94. He was chair of the International Services Committee from 1995 to the present and chair of the Community Telephone Services/Crisis Line Committee from 1990-92. As chair of Emergency Services Committee in 1992-93, he raised a record \$5 million plus to help with the Midwest floods in 1993.

He was involved in numerous community and civic activities, and in 2004 received the Perry Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award.

Alan pursued several passions. He enjoyed performing in several plays in Perry and Granger, collecting rare stamps, collecting books in preparation for launching a used book store, and always, reading.

A recently retired partner with Shirley, Powell & Finneseth in Perry and Jefferson, Alan specialized in property, elder and real-estate law.

Alan is survived by his wife Viivi-Ann; daughters, Elise Relsler and Jill Shirley; two grandchildren, Lilibet and William Relsler; son-in-law, Paul Relsler; and a sister, Brenda Turner.

Services will be held at the Carris Family Funeral Home in Perry, Iowa on Tuesday, August 24, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. A private family graveside service will be held at the Violet Hill Cemetery in Perry. Visitation will be on Monday, August 23 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Carris Family Funeral Home in Perry.

A charitable fund for the benefit of Perry has been established in his memory: Alan Shirley for Perry. Contributions may be left at the funeral home.

Following the funeral service, a Celebration of Life Gathering will be held at the Hotel Pattee in Perry until 6 p.m.

*This obituary was taken from the Sunday, August 22, 2004 issue of the Des Moines Register, Des Moines, Iowa.*

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