

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Jesse, Norman G. Senator

Represented Polk County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 9 Nov 1937 Des Moines, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place  
Did not marry

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was a member of the American, Iowa and Polk County Bar Associations, Iowa Civil Liberties Union

B. Civic responsibilities

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership Lutheran

5. Sessions served 63<sup>rd</sup>, 64<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1969-1970, 1971-1972

6. Public Offices

A. Local Polk County development manager; head of the Polk County attorney office's civil bureau; Director of Des Moines Pre-Trial Release Project

B. State

C. National

7. Death 28 May 2000 Des Moines, Iowa; buried Restland Cemetery West Des Moines, Iowa

8. Children No children

9. Names of parents James R. and Helen G. Jesse

10. Education He attended Harriet P. Stowe Elementary School,  
Madison Hills Junior High and Des Moines  
Technical High Schools all in Des Moines, graduating  
in Jan 1956

11. Degrees He received a B.S. from Iowa State University and an  
L.L.B. from Drake University, Des Moines Iowa, 1964

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- He was a member of the law firm of Jones, Le Tourneau and  
Johnston





DAVID PETERSON/THE REGISTER

Norman Jesse, a public servant for more than 30 years, died Sunday from complications of lung cancer. He was 62.

# County leader Jesse dies

By MARY JANE CREDEUR  
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Jesse was Polk County development manager at the time of his death. He had also served as county manager and as a Democratic state representative.

Colleagues remember him as a witty, intense civil servant dedicated to pouring his talents and insight into his work.

"Just by virtue of the years he worked in the county and the number of people he knew, Norman was a wealth of knowledge," said Tere Caldwell-Johnson, Jesse's successor as county manager.

Jesse's lung cancer went undetected until a month ago, when he sought treatment for a persistent backache. The cancer had spread to his spine, and he spent the next few weeks in and out of Mercy Medical Center. He died at Kavanagh House.

Dan Johnston, Jesse's companion and former law partner, said "People would sit up and listen when Nor-



## SENIOR SPEAKERS



TRENTON WILLIAMS:  
Lincoln High School



M  
A  
Y

2  
0

**TRENTON WILLIAMS:**  
Lincoln High School



**ALICIA KERR:**  
Carlisle High School



**JOSH DREYER:**  
Hoover High School

undiscovered until a month ago, when he sought treatment for a persistent backache. The cancer had spread to his spine, and he spent the next few weeks in and out of Mercy Medical Center. He died at Kavanagh House.

Dan Johnston, Jesse's companion and former law partner, said, "People would sit up and listen when Norman began to talk," he said.

When Jesse was county manager, he took a special interest in working through the county to provide safe, affordable housing for families, said Martha Willits, former county supervisor.

Caldwell-Johnson remembers Jesse as a "jack of all trades." "He was a Renaissance man. This is a huge blow to the Polk County family," she said.

Jesse was called a "flamboyant liberal" and a "brash upstart," among other things, while serving six terms in the Legislature. In 1980, he was defeated by Republican JoAnn Trucano. He then became the head of the county attorney office's civil bureau. He was county manager from 1993 to 1996.

Three days after Jesse was charged with drunken driving in March 1996, county supervisors announced that he would be replaced. Jesse was then appointed to the newly created position of manager of development.

His duties will be performed by other county staff members until the board of supervisors determines how to proceed, Caldwell-Johnson said.

In addition to Johnston, Jesse is survived by his mother, Helen Jesse, and brothers, Rollin and Glen Jesse, all of Des Moines.

Arrangements are pending with Hamilton's Funeral Home.

Reporter Mary Jane Credeur can be reached at (515) 281-1111.

29

2000

in Seuss' 'You'll Go'

and Buzz about lifelong ge crushes. for untiring expectations. speakers at tions across 13 years of elated their

Izetta Ben-anddaughter om Ankeny e a welcome nies they at-

ted, you had ring speech, t to be over," k these of their own

May and the it 39,500, stu- from Iowa's s. On the po- addresses to were senior ians, students or and others out. he audiences

4B

# Korean War papers

Ed- stored in a downtown Independence building, Edwards said.

"This is probably one of the premier collections in the country in terms of information and materials from the Korean War, especially from the perspective of the common soldier," Graceland President Dave Clinefelter said. It's not a huge program in terms of drawing lots of students and

## Services set for Jesse funeral



Norman Jesse, 62, of the 1500 block of Allison Avenue died of lung cancer Sunday at Hospice Kavanagh House. Private services will be Thursday at Hamilton's Funeral

Home, with burial at Resthaven Cemetery. A public memorial service will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Des Moines Botanical Center.

Mr. Jesse had lived in Des Moines all his life. He was Polk County's development manager and had served in other county roles. He had served six terms in the Legislature.

Surviving are his mother, Helen Jesse of Des Moines; and two brothers, Rollin of Des Moines and Glen of Mitchellville.

Dan Johnston of Chelsea, N.Y., was his longtime companion.

Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Kavanagh House, Strickler Fund, the American Cancer Society or Aging Resources of Central Iowa.

### RALPH BROCKMAN

Placentia, Calif.



Ralph Brockman, 91, of Placentia, Calif., died of a heart ailment Thursday at Sunny Hill Convalescent Hospital in Fullerton, Calif. Graveside services will be at

2:30 p.m. Thursday at Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines.

Mr. Brockman was born in Des Moines and had lived here until moving to Placentia 16 years ago. He was a retired mechanic with the city of Des Moines, an Army veteran of World War II and a member of the Masons.

He is survived by a stepdaughter, Norma Crutcher of Placentia, and a step-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille.

### MADELINE BRAY

Des Moines



Madeline C. Bray, 88, of NBA Ramsey Home died of a respiratory ailment Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at

10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Augustin's Catholic Church, of which she was a member. Burial will be at Glendale Cemetery.

Mrs. Bray had lived in Des Moines all her life. She was a homemaker and a retired Braille transcriber with the Iowa Commission for the Blind. She also was a secretary with the Des Moines Diocese and had served on the administrative staff for the pope's visit to Des Moines. She was a member of Bishop Drumm Guild and her church's Rosary Society.

She is survived by two daughters, Margaret Heger and Mary Kennedy, both of Des Moines; three sons, John of Geneva, Ill., Thomas of New Lisbon, Wis., and Joseph of Adel; two sisters, Maxine Beldt of Longmont, Colo., and Maureen Coash of Des Moines; 17 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 3 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to NBA Ramsey Home or Holy Family School.

### FORREST LUNDBERG

Des Moines



Forrest R. Lundberg, 78, of the 1100 block of 36th Street died of pneumonia Thursday at The Abbey. Services will be at

1 p.m. today at Brooks Funeral Care, with burial at Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery.

Mr. Lundberg was born in Des Moines and had lived in the area most of his life. He had worked for the Iowa Department of Social Services before

Charles Melroy, 83, of the 600 block of 45th Street died of Alzheimer's disease Sunday at NBA Ramsey Home. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Augustin Church, of which he was a member. Burial will be at Glen-

dale. He was born in Madison, Wis., and lived in Des Moines for 40 years. He was a retired accounting manager with Skiles Architects and served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and a decorated World War II veteran.

Survived by his wife, Mary; a daughter, Weir; three daughters, Maureen Miller, and eight grandchildren, all of Des Moines; a son, of Winterset; and eight

grandchildren. Call after 2 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 5 to 7 p.m. and the service will be held at

10:30 a.m. Thursday. Contributions may be made to the church or Des Moines Diocese Charities. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

### AMIN

Freda Fern Benjamin, 86, of Winterset died of complications of pneumonia Monday at home. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at St. United Methodist Church in Winterset, which she was a member. Burial will be at Stringtown Cemetery in Winterset.

Survived by her son, who lived in Winterset many

WA  
John

will  
of  
he  
Lin  
M  
had  
He  
als  
and  
wa  
As  
I  
five  
sej  
dal  
Jol  
sa  
Yo  
Ha  
Jol  
Jar  
Lu  
an  
16  
gr  
to  
Ch  
pr  
wi  
tri

G/  
M:  
to  
at  
M  
m  
Th  
Ho  
to  
Ce  
to