

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Harpers, Mattie Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Appanosee, Davis and Howell Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 15 Dec 1923 Mississippi

2. Marriage (s) date place  
Leverson Harpers 12 Feb 1946 Mobile, Alabama

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business \_\_\_\_\_

B. Civic responsibilities Member of auxiliaries of Eagles; Elks, V.F.W.; American Legion; Davis County Historical Society; YWCA

C. Profession Lumberjack at West Grove, Iowa and grain elevator at Superior, Iowa - co-owned with her husband; homemaker

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 65<sup>th</sup>, 66<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1973-1974, 1975-1976

6. Public Offices

A. Local \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

7. Death 22 Apr 1977 Rockville, Minnesota; buried West Grove Cemetery, West Grove, Iowa

8. Children Rick Clay

9. Names of parents Oscar and Jewell (Tisdale) Miller

10. Education \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Degrees \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Other applicable information Sumner

*She taught school and was a government employee before  
her marriage*



# Mattie Harper dies of

WEST GROVE — Mattie Harper of West Grove, House District 90 state representative since 1973, Friday lost a fight with cancer.

Mrs. Harper died Friday at 11:30 a.m. at Rochester Methodist Hospital in Rochester, Minn.



REP. MATTIE HARPER

The 53-year-old Democrat underwent surgery in Rochester, Minn., last Nov. 9 to remove a malignant kidney tumor. She had just won election Nov. 2 to her third term as representative for Davis and southern Wapello counties and a small portion of Appanoose County.

Although her educational claims were challenged by her opponent in the 1976 campaign, and she subsequently admitted she did not have a college degree, she was re-elected by a wide margin.

Her illness forced her to miss the opening of the 67th General Assembly, which convened Jan. 10. About 10 days later, State Representative Charles Poncy, D-Ottumwa, made a hurry-up trip to West Grove, where he administered the oath of office to his colleague in order for her to keep her legislative seat.

While recovering at home, she kept abreast of the legislative developments, receiving committee reports and other material daily.

"The Iowa Legislature and her representative district will deeply miss Mattie Harper," Sen. Gene Glenn, D-Ottumwa, said today.

"She had dedicated her the elderly and those in assistance. Her influential public-spirited program the legislature was served her constituency compassion.

"Her colleagues will n said.

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Other memberships w

## Pakistan under martial law

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — The army, under orders to shoot curfew violators on sight, enforced martial law in three of Pakistan's largest cities today after one of the bloodiest days in the six weeks of political violence.

Martial law and round-the-clock curfews were enforced in Karachi and Hyderabad in the south and Lahore in the north, and a curfew was in effect in the northern city of Lyallpur.

The curfew, keeping residents indoors most of the day, was relaxed for two or three hours in all four cities today to allow people to buy food.

As many as 34 persons were killed Friday in clashes between security forces and demonstrators demanding the ouster of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

The worst violence occurred in Karachi, with 3.5 million inhabitants

Pakistan's largest city. Taking advantage of a curfew, marched toward and were ordered to disperse troops. When they refused to march, the soldiers opened fire.

Unofficial reports said 300 killed and 200 wounded. At least five persons were injured.

The antigovernment front by the opposition Pakistan Alliance (PNA), has escalating campaign since the March 7 national election. PNA contends the election was extensively rigged to favor Pakistan People's party, which won two-thirds of the National Assembly.

A general strike called for being observed in many cities. Protest marches were staged

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"Her colleagues will miss her," Glenn said.

Born Dec. 15, 1923, in Mississippi, she was the daughter of Oscar and Jewell Tisdale Mills. She taught school and was a government employe before her marriage to Deverre Harper of West Grove, Feb. 12, 1946, in Mobile, Ala. She was the co-owner with her husband of the lumber yard in West Grove, and a grain elevator in Seymour at one time.

Mrs. Harper was active in many organizations. She was a member of auxiliaries to the Eagles, Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion. She had served the latter as state president, national chairman of national security and for 24 years, was on the Girls State staff, directing the program for the last 15 years.

Other memberships were in the Davis

County Historical Society, Business and Professional Women, Democratic Women's clubs of Davis and Wapello counties, the United Methodist Church, YWCA, Farm Bureau, Iowa Women's Political Caucus, Legislative Ladies League and more, and she was a past president of the PTA. She served on several governor's committees before her election to the Iowa House.

In the legislature this year, she was chairperson of the House Ethics Committee, vice chairperson of the transportation committee and a member of the agriculture, rules and appropriations committees.

Survivors include her widower; one son, Rick Clay Harper, and her mother, both of West Grove; and one sister, Mrs. Dolores Graham of Ankeny.

Services will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Priester Funeral Chapel in Bloomfield with the Revs. Richard Dunn and Vern Elder officiating. Burial will be in West Grove Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 7 to 8 p.m. No memorials have been established and the casket will not be closed.

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Pakistan's largest city. Protesters there, taking advantage of a break in the curfew, marched toward a city bridge and were ordered to disperse by army troops. When they continued their march, the soldiers opened fired.

Unofficial reports said 22 persons were killed and 200 wounded. The government said five persons were killed and 13 injured.

The antigovernment forces, organized by the opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA), have waged an escalating campaign against Bhutto since the March 7 national elections. The PNA contends the elections were extensively rigged to give Bhutto's Pakistan People's party (PPP) two-thirds of the National Assembly seats.

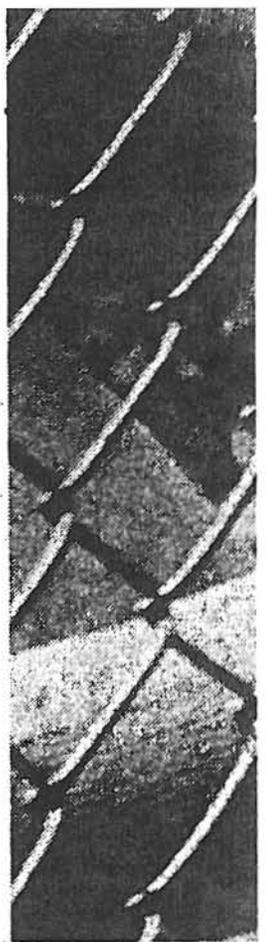
A general strike called by the PNA was being observed in many cities and protest marches were staged in Karachi,

Sargodha, Lyallpur, Multan, Peshawar, Bannu, Nawabshah, Sukkur, Imirpur, Rawalpindi, Quetta and Dera Ghazi Khan. In areas under martial law some protesters shouted anti-Bhutto slogans from rooftops.

Two major international airlines suspended flights to Karachi because of the violence. Air France said it would review the situation Monday and Japan Air Lines said it was refusing to make any bookings for Karachi until further notice.

The military administrator in Lahore said anyone caught urging government employes or utility workers to strike could face the death penalty.

Reports from Lahore also said a former governor of the Baluchistan province, Nawab Akbar Bugti, who has been siding with the PNA, was arrested. There was no confirmation of the report.



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# Salute to Mattie

Mattie Harper died Friday. Southeastern Iowa lost an aggressive and hard-working legislator.

Mattie was a politician. She understood the vote-getting opportunities of a chamber of commerce gathering or a bicentennial flag-raising. She

sensed the issues that mattered to the home folks and concentrated on them with all of her considerable powers.

Even in the depths of her final illness, she tried to do her job. Rep. Charles Poncey of Ottumwa mentioned just this week that during her last attempt at work

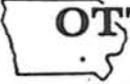
at the legislature she spent most of her time resting in the women's lounge, emerging to vote when the time came.

She was an optimist. She knew during last fall's difficult campaign that she was ill, but she persisted with the effort, refusing to bow to the weight of illness and some discomfiting disclosures about her educational claims.

She won re-election to a third term by a wide margin, an accomplishment that must have been satisfying to her. And then she returned to Rochester, Minn., for more of the intermittent hospitalization and treatment that occupied her the last months of her life.

— Jim Crane

## OPINION



### OTTUMWA COURIER

Gerald Moriarity  
James Crane

Publisher  
Editor

Founded Aug. 8, 1848—Parent member of the Lee group of newspapers

## Snuff pilot lights

Even before President Jimmy Carter introduced his controversial energy policy proposals, State Sen. Cliff Burroughs had come up with a simple plan to save significant amounts of natural gas.

Burroughs' bill would prohibit the sale of pilot light-equipped gas appliances, except for specific appliances specified by the Iowa Commerce Commission. The ban would be effective on July 1, 1980, providing

plenty of time for appliance manufacturers to prepare appliances equipped with electrically activated ignition devices.

The idea seems reasonable.

— JC

### *The world view*

## Carter's first 100 days

By THOMAS FENTON  
Associated Press Writer

Even as he approaches 100 days in office, President Carter is still a puzzle for many people around the world, a political oddity without a label, an object of both praise and alarm. A survey by Associated Press correspondents abroad showed Carter has evoked controversy with his support for human rights, his handling of arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union and his commitment to stop the spread of nuclear weapons — all major issues of his administration, which will be 100 days old next Friday.

American tradition since the founding of the republic" when he linked human rights to U.S. foreign policy.

"It is only natural to think that Carter's diplomacy of human rights is dangerous enough to invite the antagonism of the nations concerned because it is 'naive and interventionistic,'" Prof. Ide wrote in the newspaper Yomiuri. "This is true especially at the present time when there are many who think Carter is ruralistic, religious and moralistic and cannot understand the complex framework of the present world."

After the Soviet Union rejected the Carter proposal for arms limitations, the newspaper Tages-Anzeiger of Switzerland wrote: "Seldom has the big

negotiations with a new U.S. administration, of whose intentions we know little."

After President Anwar Sadat visited Washington recently, Egypt looked more favorably toward Carter, but other Arabs express misgivings. Saudi Arabia's government has shown some dismay about Carter's Middle East policy and Crown Prince Fahd was quoted as saying this month that another Arab-Israeli war is likely if momentum toward a peace settlement is frozen.

"Carter still lacks a clear Middle East vision," said a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organization. "All he has been doing so far is to put out trial balloons to help him formulate a

# Mattie Harper dies; f

Funeral services were held today for Mattie Harper state representative from District 90, who died at Rochester Methodist Hospital in Rochester, Minn.

The funeral was conducted at the Priester Funeral Chapel by the Rev. Richard Dunn and the Rev. Vern Elder. Burial was in the West Grove Cemetery.

Mrs. Harper of West Grove had represented District 90, which includes all of Davis County, southern Wapello County and a portion of Appanoose County, since 1973.

She was re-elected to her third term last November and then underwent surgery to remove a malignant kidney tumor.

The illness forced her to miss the opening of the 67th General Assembly, which convened Jan. 10. About 10 days later, State Representative Charles Poncy of Ottumwa, administered her the oath of office at her West Grove home.

While recovering at home, Mrs. Harper kept abreast of legislative developments, receiving committee reports and other material daily. She later attended sessions of the Legislature before having to return to the Rochester hospital last

month.

In a statement made Friday, State Senator Gene Glenn of Ottumwa, who also represents Davis County, said, "The Iowa Legislature and her representative district will miss her deeply".

"She had dedicated herself to causes of the elderly and those in need of special assistance. Her influence in various public-spirited programs instituted by the legislature was substantial. She served her constituency with vigor and compassion.

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Mrs. Harper was active in many organizations. She was a member of auxiliaries to the Eagles, Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion. She had served the latter as state president,

national chair and for 24 years staff, direct years.

Other memberships include County Historical Society, Professional Women's Association of Davis County, the YWCA, Federation of Political Women's League and PTA.

She served on committees before House.

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Survivors include Rick Clay and West Grove and Graham of

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## Election will replace Mrs. Harper

An election to fill the vacancy created by the death of State Representative Mattie Harper will be called by Gov. Robert Ray.

Iowa law requires that Ray call the election after he is officially notified of the vacancy in the office.

The Iowa Code provides that when the Iowa Legislature is in session, the election shall be called at the earliest practical time, giving at least 10 days notice. The election must be held on a Tuesday.

A representative in the Iowa Secretary of State Office told the Bloomfield Newspapers Monday that obviously 10 days isn't enough notice and the governor will provide more notice than that.

Candidates of the Democrat and Republican parties will be nominated by the party.

# Mattie Harper

Davis County and the State of Iowa lost an outstanding state legislator and citizen Friday when Mattie Harper of West Grove died of cancer.

Mrs. Harper died in a Rochester, Minn. hospital where she had undergone surgery in November for the removal of a malignant tumor.

A few days before she had surgery, voters in District 90 elected her to her third term to represent the area that included all of Davis County and portions of Wapello and Appanoose County.

In her previous four years, Mrs. Harper became a tremendously effective legislator for her district. She didn't believe in making speeches on the floor of the Iowa House just because television cameras happened to be there or just for show. When she said something, she had something to say and her colleagues listened.

Moreover, her effectiveness was great outside the Legislative chamber. She went to bat often for her constituents that had problems with state boards, commissions and agencies. She had a particular interest in the needs of the elderly, especially those who needed special assistance.

Mrs. Harper was more than a state legislator. She

was involved in almost all worthwhile community projects in Davis County and was particularly involved in the American Legion Auxiliary where she served as state president, national chairman of national security and was director of the Girls State program for 15 years.

Her contributions both inside and outside of politics have been many and great. While she only lived for 53 years she contributed more than many who live half again as long.

The type of individual she was is best illustrated by her desire and determination to serve the office to which she had been elected during the past few months. Obviously ill and at times in pain, Mrs. Harper made the trip to Des Moines earlier this year to take her seat and represent the people of District 90. She felt it was her duty and to do otherwise would be to violate the trust that the people of the district had given her. Lesser people would have never seen the golden dome of the State Capitol again.

We feel a sense of loss and express our sympathy to her family.

# Inspecting the pork

Congress is furious because President Carter has opened up the pork barrel for an inspection. He wants to review a number of water projects. He deleted 18 of them from President Ford's 1978 budget.

"This administration is reviewing projects that may be environmentally or economically unsound or potentially hazardous," he said.

Such a review is proper. If the projects are sound and safe, they will survive. If not, they should not be built with federal money, much of which is being collected presently from the income taxpayers across our nation.

Some senators have threatened to defeat the President's \$50-tax-rebate proposal unless he gives ground on the water projects in their states. This is the kind of threat the President should find it easy to ignore.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

tax money spent by the Congress on pork barrel pro-

Huge subsidies have been built into the federal financing of many of these projects. Unrealistically low interest rates—or no interest at all—is charged on the federal money which the beneficiaries repay. Many benefits are not repayable at all. Cost-benefit ratios to justify these projects have been figured on construction costs that have since skyrocketed and on benefits that are inflated or imaginary.

Projects that are vitally needed and economically justified, such as the California State Water Project, can be financed by the states involved without federal funds. Private irrigation projects, such as the pumping projects now developing along the mid-Columbia River, can pay for themselves if truly economic.

Balancing the federal budget in four years will never be accomplished if the President shrinks from