

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Miller, Elizabeth Ruby (Shank) Senator Miller,
Elizabeth Ruby (Shank) - Represented Marshall, Grundy, Hardin, Jasper, and
Story Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 24 Aug 1905 Timber Creek Township Marshall
County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

John Bascom Miller 5 Sept, 1933 Marshalltown, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business She was the Republican Woman of the Year for Marshall City, Iowa
in 1969; Outstanding Civic Leader Award, 1967, Most Woman of the Year 1974

B. Civic responsibilities Federated Women's Club; Marshall County
Republican Women; Marshalltown Chairman and Progressive Women

C. Profession Housewife

4. Church membership

Congregational

5. Sessions served 63rd General Assembly 1969-1970 - House of Representatives

6. Public Offices

64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th 1971-1972, 1973-1974, 1975-1976, 1977-1978,
1979-1980

A. Local Secretary and Treasurer of Timber Creek Township Board of Trustees

B. State Parliamentarian of the Iowa Federation of Republican Women

C. National

7. Death 31 Dec 1988 Marshalltown, Iowa; buried Riverside Cemetery, Marshalltown, Iowa

8. Children John B.; Edward Jr.; Mary Lou (Mrs Tom Spear);
Betty Arlene (Mrs Russell Keeden)

9. Names of parents Stephen and Lenora (Burns) Shank

Miller, Elizabeth Rulog

10. Education Educated in the public schools of Marshalltown,
 Iowa graduating from Marshalltown High School
 in 1923.

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____

Republican
- Her husband, John Bascom Miller, died 3 Oct 1978

Madeline Roads, 79

Graveside services for Madeline Roads, 79, of 206 Nicholas Drive, who died Saturday, Dec. 31 at her home, were held this Tuesday afternoon at the Liscomb Cemetery with the Rev. Mary Taylor, pastor of Bethel Grove Christian church, officiating.

A memorial fund has been established and memorials may be sent to Marlene Ferguson, 1314 E. Nevada St., Marshalltown. The Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Roads was born March 6, 1909 in Marshall County, the daughter of Charles and Clara May Dunham Elliott. She received her education in the Green Mountain and Marshalltown Schools.

On Nov. 24, 1928 in Marshalltown, she was married to Lewis David Roads and the couple had always made their home in the Marshalltown and Liscomb communities. She had been employed at the Iowa Veterans Home in the dietary department for many years, at MACH West and at Westwood Care Center. She was a member of the Bethel Grove Christian Church.

Preceding her in death were her husband in 1985, two sisters and a brother.

Surviving are a son and two daughters, William Charles Roads of Marshalltown, Marlene Ferguson of Marshalltown and Susan Kielly of State Center. Also surviving are 17 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, a sister, Grace Leise of Albion and several nieces and nephews.

Margaret M. Lee, 75

Services for Margaret M. Lee, 75, of 706½ W. Main St., who died Saturday evening, Dec. 31, at her home, will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Trinity Lutheran Church with the Rev. Gregg Davison officiating. Burial will be in Rose Hill Memorial Gardens.

Born Feb. 18, 1913 in Marshall County, she was the daughter of Charles L. and Margaret Elizabeth Sincow Fuller. She received her elementary education in schools in Aredale, Audobon and Boxholm and graduated from Story City High School. On May 12, 1935 at Story City, she married Gilbert

Elizabeth R. Miller, 83

Services for Elizabeth R. Miller, 83, of Route 6, who died Saturday, Dec. 31, at her home of an apparent heart attack, will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the first Congregational Church with the Rev. Gregory Ellcey, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Born Elizabeth Ruby Shank Aug. 24, 1905 in Timber Creek Township, Marshall County, she was the daughter



Elizabeth R. Miller

of Stephen and Lenore Burns Shank. She received her education in Marshalltown and graduated from high school in 1923. On September 5, 1923 at the Methodist Parsonage in Marshalltown, she was married to John Bascom Miller. He preceded her in death on Oct. 3, 1978. She served in the Iowa Legislature from 1969 to 1980, the first four years as state representative and then as state senator, her major issues were environmental and agricultural including the introduction of the Bottle Bill. She was active in Republican women's organizations, church work, the Federated Women's Club, the First Congregational Church and was the parliamentarian of the Iowa Federation of Republican Women.

Preceding her in death were two

Sylvester B. Holm,

Sylvester B. (Sy) Holm, W. Southridge Road, died Jan. 1 at the Marshall Co Facility following a lingering illness. He had been a patient at the facility for the past two weeks.

Services will be at the Estel-Avey Funeral Home at 2 p.m. today with Dr. Worthie Ushe officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery with the flag for the funeral. Friends may call at the funeral home after 4 p.m. this Tuesday.

Born Feb. 19, 1912 in Hartsville, he was the son of John Twedt Holm. He received his education in Hardin County. During World War II he served as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army for three and a half years.

On March 22, 1941 at Des Moines, he was married to Goecke and they have lived at their home in Marshalltown for two years in Leesburg, Iowa. He was employed by Fisher Controls for 37 years.

Mr. Holm was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Foreman's Club, American Legion and Elks Lodge.

Preceding him in death were his infant son, Jon David Holm, two brothers and two sisters.

Surviving are his wife, Irlene, two daughters, Sally F. (Mrs. F. H. Jensen) of West Des Moines and K. (Mrs. John) Tew of Bismarck, La., a son Michael E. Holm of Marshalltown, five grandchildren, a sister, Mrs. LuVerne Davis of Los Angeles, Calif.

Esther Ray, 82

Esther A. Ray, 82, former N. 4th Ave., died Monday, Jan. 2, at Marshalltown Surgical Center due to natural causes. Services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at the Pursel-Davis Funeral Home with the Rev. Glenn Taylor officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

A memorial fund has been

in Marshall County, the daughter of Charles and Clara May Dunham Elliott. She received her education in the Green Mountain and Marshalltown Schools.

On Nov. 24, 1928 in Marshalltown, she was married to Lewis David Roads and the couple had always made their home in the Marshalltown and Liscomb communities. She had been employed at the Iowa Veterans Home in the dietary department for many years, at MACH West and at Westwood Care Center. She was a member of the Bethel Grove Christian Church.

Preceding her in death were her husband in 1985, two sisters and a brother.

Surviving are a son and two daughters, William Charles Roads of Marshalltown, Marlene Ferguson of Marshalltown and Susan Kielly of State Center. Also surviving are 17 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, a sister, Grace Leise of Albion and several nieces and nephews.



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Preceding her in death were two brothers, Russell and Stephen, and an infant sister, Hazel.

Surviving are two sons, and two daughters, John B. Miller of Titonka, Edward J. Miller of Marshalltown, Mary Lou (Mrs. Tom) Speas of Marshalltown, and Betty Arlene (Mrs. Russell) Weeden of Marshalltown, 18 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, three sisters, Arley Phelps of Fulton, Mo., Lucette Hodina of Floyd County and Mildred Zeisneiss of State Center.

Friends may call at the Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home after 1 p.m. Tuesday. A memorial fund is being

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Mr. Holm was a member of United Methodist Church, Foremans Club, American Legion Elks Lodge.

Preceding him in death infant son, Jon David Holm, two brothers and two sisters.

Surviving are his wife, F daughters, Sally F. (Mrs. Hansen) of West Des Moines, K. (Mrs. John) Tew of Baton Rouge, La., a son Michael E. Holm of Marshalltown, five grandchildren, sister, Mrs. LuVerne David of Los Angeles, Calif.

Esther Ray, 82

Esther A. Ray, 82, formerly N. 4th Ave., died Monday, Jan. 2, at Marshalltown Surgical Center due to natural causes. Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at the Pursel-Davis Funeral Home with the Rev. Glenn Taylor of River Church of the Brethren officiating. Burial will be in the Cemetery.

A memorial fund has been established. Friends may call at home after 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Born May 6, 1906, in Indiana, she was the daughter of and Gertrude Fudge Hunt. She first married to Ernest "Carl" Jansen in Marshalltown in 1928. He preceded her in death. She was married to James C. Ray on Oct. 19, 1946, in Marshalltown; he preceded her in death in 1965. Also preceding her in death were a daughter and a brother.

Mrs. Ray is survived by two sons, Dale E. and Rolland R. of Marshalltown; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren

Margaret M. Lee, 75

Services for Margaret M. Lee, 75, of 706½ W. Main St., who died Saturday evening, Dec. 31, at her home, will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Trinity Lutheran Church with the Rev. Gregg Davison officiating. Burial will be in Rose Hill Memorial Gardens.

Born Feb. 18, 1913 in Marshall County, she was the daughter of Charles L. and Margaret Elizabeth Sincox Fuller. She received her elementary education in schools in Aredale, Audobon and Boxholm and graduated from Story City High School. On May 12, 1935 at Story City, she married Gilbert J. Lee and the couple made their home in Marshalltown. Mrs. Lee was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church and the Ruth Circle.

Preceding her in death was a brother and a sister.

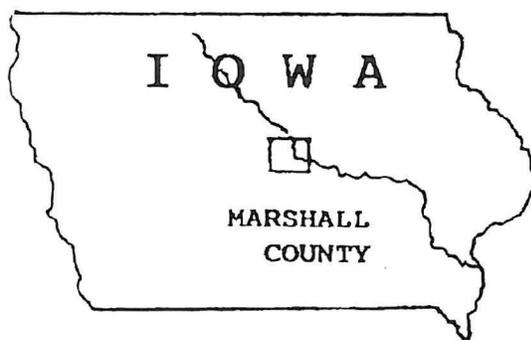
Surviving is her husband, Gilbert, and a daughter, Mary C. (Mrs. Ed) Backoff of Marshalltown, as well as two grandchildren and a sister, Ruth (Mrs. Lloyd) Trefz of Poway, Calif.

Friends may call at the Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home after 1 p.m. Tuesday. Memorials may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church in her name.

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

The Continuing History of Marshall County Iowa

1997



A Project of the Marshall County
Sesquicentennial Commission
In Observance of
the Sesquicentennial
of the
State of Iowa

scribed as Lot 9 of the northwest quarter of the of the southeast quarter of section 26 (2 1/2 acres more or less) from Isaac and Mary Peterson and a deed was recorded. We know that the cemetery association had been formed prior to his purchase. The directors at the time were: J. G. M. Cooper, H. T. Mann, J. C. Powers, George Whaley and David Hilsabeck.

The Timber Creek (formerly Timber Creek Grove) Cemetery is now a private township cemetery owned by the Timber Creek Cemetery Association. It is an as-

sociation of members, or their relatives, owning a lot. Lot owners paid about a dollar a year for the care of their lots until 1943 when the cemetery became a perpetual care cemetery. The cemetery is now a well kept five acre tract on the highest point in the area with a pleasant view above Middle Timber Creek. It is regularly visited by many people including the area residents on their daily walks.

The cemetery association holds it's business meetings at the Ferguson Christian Church and it's members as well as

other members of the community are active in managing the cemetery.

The present officers are: Trustees- Paul Speas, Ray Speas, Naida Smith, Merle Finders, John Mohr, Harold Elsberry, Vera Zesch and Julia Nickerson.

This report has been compiled from various and limited sources and its accuracy can be questioned. Any additions or corrections will be appreciated. This article was researched and furnished by Delmar Runner.

Rural Living

Sometime in the early 1960s, Elizabeth Miller recalled her memories of harvesting in the 1920s. She writes as follows.

"Late summer brings to mind the many tasks concerning thrashing, the process of harvesting the small grain crops. In this area of central Iowa, oats was the most common crop. Forty plus years ago that was a big event. First the ripened oat plants, about two feet high, were cut into a moving binder which tied them into bundles. The bundles were shocked by hand, standing them upright with a crowning bundle bent across the top to protect the heads of the bundles below. They were left to dry for a week or so, depending on the weather. In dry weather, they were soon ready to run through the thrashing machine which separated the oat grain from the chaff and straw.

"When I was a young girl, I always helped shock the oats. My father, Stephen Shank, used a McCormick Deering binder, which was considered a remarkable piece of machinery. It not only cut but also tied the oats into bundles with twine. Sometimes the knotter didn't work and much time was spent trying to fix it. In central Iowa, the last of July and the first part of August, the weather was usually hot. This was hard on the horses that pulled the binder. I remember when one of the horses pulling the binder started to stagger and had to be unhitched. One could easily get hurt trying to do this. The horse fell into the field of corn next to the oat field and knocked down many hills of corn before it fell and died. Of course, losing the horse and corn was a great loss.

"My dad was in charge of running the thrashing machine. The power was furnished by a big steam engine. When the thrashing machine arrived at our nearest neighbor, we knew in a day or so they would be at our place. What a thrill to see that big steam engine come chugging up the driveway into our barn lot. This rig required three men to operate it. One on the machine, one on the steam engine and one with a tank wagon to haul water for the

steam engine. They usually pumped this water from the nearest creek. The entire crew stayed where they were for the night. The crew was up early in the morning getting the steam up so it would be ready for the first load of bundles.

"We always had good things to eat for the crew. They were our neighbors and, of course, they expected good food. My mother would usually have a large beef roast, chicken and pork for the meat dishes. Wonderful cottage cheese, which my mother made fresh because we didn't have refrigeration. A cool cellar was all we had to preserve our food. Large blocks of ice were purchased in town and brought to the farm to keep food cold and to put in tea and lemonade. The thrashing usually took about two days per farm so there would be eighteen to twenty men to feed two meals a day for two days."



J. "Bascom" Miller and Elizabeth R. (Shank) Miller.

In 1923, Elizabeth R. Shank married J. "Bascom" Miller, who owned and operated a thrashing machine. He used an Avery tractor instead of a steam engine, eliminating the need for the tank wagon. He was born near Farmington, North Carolina and came to Iowa in 1894. Elizabeth was born on a farm three miles north of Haverhill. She lived her entire eighty three years in Timber Creek township.

Bascom lived to be eighty six years of age.

As a concerned citizen, Elizabeth was always interested in the political system that governs the people. She served on the county jury commission, was Secretary-Treasurer of Timbercreek Township Board of Trustees, a member of Marshall County Republican Central Committee. In addition to these committees she served as president of Marshall County Republican Women.

In 1968, after trying to persuade a women to run for the Iowa House of Representatives, she decided to run herself. She was elected and served four years in the Iowa House of Representatives. In 1972, when John Mowry retired from his senate seat, she decided to run for the Iowa Senate. She was successful in this endeavor and served two terms in the Senate.

We used to have a party line telephone system. There were five or six families on the line and who had the responsibility for maintaining the line. Sometimes it would take everyone off the line ringing "Central" at once to get an answer to reach Marshalltown. When the dial system came, we told Dad we should keep the old telephone for it might be valuable as an antique. He replied, "I hope you are not going to begrudge me the pleasure of throwing that telephone into the back canyon." He was tired or repairing the thing.

Many of us remember the coal-fired steam engines that pulled the Chicago, Great Western freight trains from Kansas City diagonally across the northwest quarter of the township. Construction of that railroad began in 1882 in Waterloo and was completed to Des Moines in 1884. It came into Marshalltown from Green Mountain, followed Nevada Street west, then managed to cross the Northwestern line and head southwest out of town

MARSHALL COUNTY TOWNSHIPS

along the south side of the Northwestern tracks. In it's diagonal route, it crossed the western border of Timber Creek township in section 19, where it put up a depot and called the station Luray.

Luray, a small town in Timber Creek district #7, Marshall County, is a memory of my past where I lived during my childhood years.

"I am Ellen "Honey" Kiesewetter, daughter of Albert and Martha Kiesewetter. I must have been around seven or eight when my sister Elsie and I would drive a horse and buggy to Luray delivering the eggs and cream to our grocery store. Frank Wilkins was the manager. The town consisted of the grocery store, the post office, Chicago Great Western Railroad depot, weighing station, grain elevator, coal shed, stock yard, three houses and a cheese factory. The town was plotted into lots in hopes of future expansion. Before my time, an outside dance floor was built by John Melberg. An all local talent band was formed. This included my father, Albert Kiesewetter, who played the violin. I have been told they had good attendance and had many great "whoopie" times.



Elmer Robinett leaves the barnyard with horsepower and canine power as he heads out for an afternoon cultivating in the cornfield.

"The farmers in our area who had livestock, drove their cattle and hogs to Luray over bridges and rundown fences. Many loud words flowed through the air. The kids who were helping would say, "Did you hear what dad said?" We all did.

"Once confined in the stockyard, the cattle were loaded into railroad boxcars, and the owners of the cattle rode in the cabooses (free) all night. The cattle were sold early in the morning at the "Chicago Livestock Yard". The farmer would then return home in the evening on the passenger train. Dad took \$5 with him, and

would return with change.

"The elevator took corn and oats. Soybeans were not heard of at this time. However, I.S.U. asked dad to plant soybeans to see how they grew. Many people stopped to see them as this was new to everyone. The beans grew fine and were threshed like oats on Thanksgiving Day.

"There was a small cemetery just south of Luray on the farm line owned by Louis Jones. It is recorded in the court house auditor's office by the library canvas of cemeteries. The cemetery was uncared for and included at least three or four headstones. A seven or eight year old girl's last name is on one of the stones. She died in 1863. I vaguely remember the stones being there.

"Albert Kiesewetter, my Dad, bought the town of Luray around 1927. It had become a well known gambling town. Dad paid around \$3,000 for the town. Luray stayed on the Iowa map for years, but was eventually dropped.

"After my father died in 1945, the elevator was taken down, and the depot was taken away by the railroad. We moved the coal shed to use for a garage. One house burned down, and the others fell into disrepair. The grocery store was also moved away. As the town was dwindling down, it became a lovers lane.

"In 1945 Ellen Kiesewetter Hunt inherited the town and land. Ellen had been married to Verle Hunt in 1943. We bulldozed the final remnants of the town to

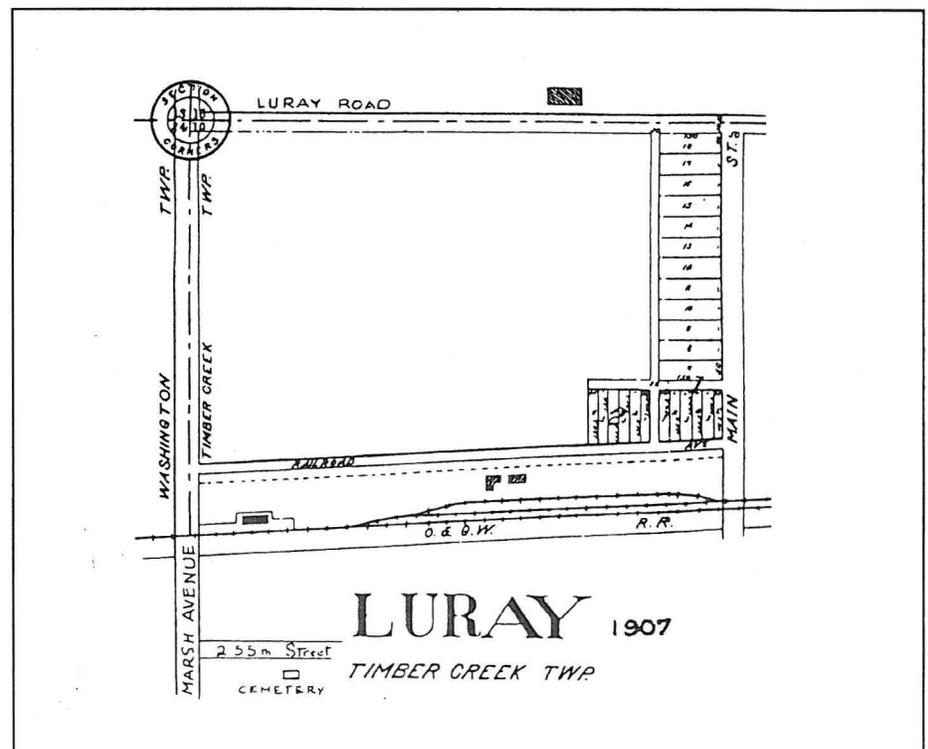
make way for farming the area. The Chicago Great Western Railroad is the last memory I have of the town of Luray. The last train passed over the tracks in 1983. Since then the tracks have been removed and the area is now an open field just north of Timber Creek and east of Marsh Avenue. Our son, Joe Hunt, and his family live across the road north of the town site. In memory of the town, the country road was named "Luray Road".

By Ellen Kiesewetter Hunt.

Only a small part of the Northwestern's 1,667 miles of railroad in Iowa came through sections four, five and six in the northwest corner of Timber Creek township. However, in this small stretch, where the railroad crosses Linn Creek (under the overpass) they have had some major derailments and other accidents. Known in 1862 to 1863 as the Cedar Rapids and Missouri Railroad, it was the first to cross the state and became part of the first to cross the continent. After more than a century of ownership, the Chicago and Northwestern was sold to the Union Pacific in 1995.

Excluding the hard surfaced highways, #14, #330 and #30, Timber Creek maintain 40 plus miles of crushed rock roads, which cross Timber Creek and Linn Creek and their tributaries many times creating the need for 21 bridges or culverts.

Lincoln Highway came through the northwest edge of Timber Creek town-



Individual Record

FamilySearch™ U.S. Social Security Death Index

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 Elizabeth MILLER

Birth Date: 24 Aug 1905
Death Date: 31 Dec 1988
Social Security Number: 481-54-0816
State or Territory Where Number Was Issued: Iowa

Death Residence Localities

ZIP Code: 50158
Localities: Dillon, Marshall, Iowa
Dunbar, Marshall, Iowa
La Moille, Marshall, Iowa
Marietta, Marshall, Iowa
Marshalltown, Marshall, Iowa
Quarry, Marshall, Iowa

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This data is only accurate as of 1 Aug 2011.

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