

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Evans, Thomas Cooper Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Black Hawk, Butler, Franklin, Grundy, Marshall and  
Jama Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 26 May 1924 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Jeann Marie Ruppelt 21 June 1948 Grundy Center, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business None

B. Civic responsibilities Commissioner of Grundy County Municipal Hospital

C. Profession Farmer (raised corn, soybeans and black walnuts)

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 66<sup>th</sup>, 67<sup>th</sup>, 68<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1975-1976, 1977-1978,  
1979-1980

6. Public Offices

A. Local Assistant commissioner of Grundy County Soil Conservation District; Grundy  
County engineer; chairman of Grundy County Board of Tax Review

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

C. National United States Congressman; Adviser to the President of the  
U.S. for Agriculture and Aquaculture & Processing

7. Death 22 Dec 2005 Grundy Center, Iowa; buried Rose Hill Cemetery, Grundy

8. Children James; Charles; Edward Giles (died in 1969) Center  
Iowa

9. Names of parents Thomas Edward and Ora Belle (Cooper) Evans

10. Education Educated in the Grundy Center public schools  
graduating from Grundy Center High School  
in 1942

11. Degrees Graduate of the University of St. Andrews in  
Scotland in 1948 with a degree in History and Economics  
graduate of Iowa State University, Ames Iowa B.S. in Mechanical  
Engineering and M.S. in Civil Engineering M.S. Republican

12. Other applicable information

- He was raised in Grundy Center
- Degrees (continued) - in 1956 he graduated from Oak Ridge School  
of Reactor Technology in Nuclear Engineering; he was a  
graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff  
College in 1962.
- From 1991-2009 he served as a member of the Board of  
Directors of Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative  
Assistance
- He was an extensive traveler especially to emerging democracies  
and developing nations
- Military service - World War II - U.S. Army. He was on active  
duty with the U.S. Army for 18 years 1942-1965. During this  
time he rose in rank from Private to Lieutenant Colonel.
- He was an advisor to the President of the United States for  
Agriculture and Agricultural Businessmen



# Register

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E-Mail: register@gcmuni.net

Grundy Newspaper

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## Local Dignitary Remembered



Cooper Evans

Cooper Evans, long time resident of Grundy Center, who enjoyed a lifetime of service to his country, died December 22 at the age of 81.

From 1991 until 2002, Evans served as a member of the board of directors of Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA). VOCA provides agricultural technical assistance to emerging democracies and developing nations. He traveled extensively to the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to develop new programs for VOCA and to advise on agricultural policy.

He served as Special Assistant to

the President for Agricultural Trade and Food Assistance. As a member of the White House staff, his responsibilities included working closely with the Secretary of Agriculture on agricultural policy development and serving as a strong advocate within the White House for farmers, ranchers, and all of rural America.

In the summer of 1987, Vice President George Bush asked Evans to chair his national agricultural policy advisory group. In December of 1987, he was asked to accompany the Vice President as spokesman on agricultural matters when Bush met with General Secretary Gorbachev in Washington, D.C. Evans was elected to the 1988 Republican Platform Committee and took a leadership role in drafting the agricultural plank.

Evans served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1980 through 1986. In early 1986, he announced that he would not seek re-election in order to devote more time to agricultural activities. He served on the Committee on Agriculture and played an active role in drafting both the 1981 and 1985 farm bills. He played key roles in many aspects of agricultural legislation. As a member of the Select Committee on Hunger, he traveled extensively throughout Africa.

Before serving in the U.S. Congress, Evans was elected for three terms to the Iowa House of

Representatives beginning in 1974. There his service included Chairman of the Energy Committee and Vice Chairman of Appropriations.

Evans served 18 years on active duty with the U.S. Army between the years of 1942 and 1965. During this time he rose in rank from drafted private to Lt. Colonel in the Regular Army. Highlights from his military career included serving in NASA headquarters on the Apollo Project; Serving on the General Staff of the U.S. Army where his assignment was in the Atomic Division of the Office of the Chief of Research and Development; and an assignment to the U.S. Army Polar Research and Development Command where he was in charge of constructing Camp Century, the Army's nuclear powered "City Under the Ice" on the Greenland ice cap.

Thomas Cooper Evans was the recipient of numerous distinguished service to agriculture awards.

A complete obituary for Evans can be found on page 3 of this issue of the Grundy Register.

## Sen. Grassley To Hold Town Meeting Here

U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley says he will kick off his annual tour of Iowa by visiting nine communities during

CATCH Life Inc. To Launch New

## Ednamay Erbe, 89



Ednamay Erbe of Boone died Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005, at the Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo.

Ednamay was born July 23, 1916, in Boone, to Otto and Bertha (Lind) Schmidt. She attended school in Boone and graduated from Boone High School. She attended Boone Junior College and then Iowa State University, graduating at the age of 20 with a degree in Institutional Food Management and Dietetics. Ednamay was married to Frederick Orro Erbe on January 25, 1942, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Boone. She and her husband lived in Fort Snelling, MN and after his death, she moved to Boone at the age of 42. She worked as the Head Dietitian at the Boone County Hospital for 20 years and retired in 1978 at the age of 62.

She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church of Boone and was active in her church, serving in various committees. She was a member of Chapter NP of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, and was a past president of the Iowa Dietetics Association. She enjoyed entertaining, was an avid golfer until two years ago, and enjoyed handwork and playing Bridge.

She was preceded in death by her husband; sister, Dorothy; and son-in-law Richard M. Smith in Nov. 2005.

Ednamay is survived by her daughter, Barbara Louise Smith of Grundy Center; her son Frederick John Erbe of Tucson, AZ; four grandchildren: Janet (Dan) Kelleher of Frisco, TX; Richard Manly (Rick) Smith of Frisco, TX; Julie Marie Erbe of Tucson, AZ; and Emilie Louise Erbe of Tucson, AZ; four great-grandchildren, Kathrin, Emily, Barbara, Sarah Marguerite and Daniel Richard Kelleher of Frisco,



## Thomas Cooper Evans, 81

Thomas Cooper Evans, 81, of Grundy Center died December 22. Memorial services were December 27 at the United Methodist Church, Grundy Center. Private family burial was in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Grundy Center. Memorials may be directed to Cedar Bend Animal Shelter, 1166 West Airline Highway, Waterloo or to Doctors without Borders [www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org).

Cooper was born May 26, 1924, in Cedar Rapids, the son of Thomas Edward and Ora Belle (Cooper) Evans. Cooper was raised in Grundy Center and attended school in Grundy Center. Cooper graduated from Grundy Center High school in 1942. Cooper graduated from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland in 1948 with a degree in History and Economics. On June 21, 1948, he was united in marriage to Jean Marie Ruppelt in Grundy Center. Cooper graduated from Iowa State University in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering in 1955. In 1956, he graduated from Oak Ridge School of Reactor Technology in Nuclear Engineering. He also was a graduate of the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1962. His Scholastic Honors include Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, and Pi Tau Sigma. Cooper worked as a U.S. Army Engineer, Iowa State Representative, U.S. Congressman, Advisor to the President of the United States for Agriculture and Agricultural Businessman. Cooper Evans was managing partner of Evans Farms, an 1800 acre corn, soybean and walnut operation in Grundy County. Evans Farms has been his principal Private Sector Endeavor since 1965.

## Jean Marie Hopkins, 76

Jean Marie Hopkins, 76, of Grundy Center died December 23. Funeral services were December 28 at the United Methodist Church, Grundy Center. Burial followed in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Grundy Center. A memorial fund has been established.

Jean was born September 30, 1929, in Marion the daughter of Harold and Blanche (McGuire) Mullaley. She graduated from Marion High School in 1947 and the University of Iowa in 1951 with a degree in Political Science. Jean worked as a legal secretary in Fort Wayne, IN, Chicago, and Cedar Rapids. On October 13, 1951, she was united in marriage to Ross Hopkins in Marion. After the couple moved to Grundy Center, Jean worked as the Assistant Clerk of Court in the Grundy County Courthouse for 15 years retiring in 1988.

Surviving are her husband, Ross of Grundy Center; son, Paul and wife Patricia Hopkins of Riverside; two daughters, Ann Hopkins of Monterey, CA, and Beth and husband James Heesch of Gettysburg, PA; five grandchildren; one sister, Eileen and husband Eugene Scallon of California.

Preceding her in death are her parents; and a brother, Robert Mullaley.

## Helen Sawyer, 82

Helen (Mrs. Donald) Sawyer, 82, of LeGrand died December 20 at the Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. Funeral services were December 23, at the Iowa River Church of the Brethren. Burial was in the Sheller Cemetery near Wellsburg. A memorial fund is being established.

Born Helen Albright on August 23, 1923, she was the daughter of Bruce and Bessie 'Ila' (Slifer) Albright. She received her education in the country schools in the area of her birth and graduated from the Whitten High School's class of 1941. Helen was married to Edward John Hellmich in 1943 and in 1972 was united in marriage to Donald Sawyer. They farmed north of Dunbar for many years and moved into LeGrand in 1998. Mrs. Sawyer had been employed as a certified nurses aid caring for many local individuals and



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Memorial services were held Wednesday, Dec. 28 at the Trinity Lutheran Church of Boone. Rev. Lindsay Watkins officiated. Private family burial of the cremated remains was at the Linwood Park Cemetery of Boone prior to the memorial service.

Memorials may be made to the Trinity Lutheran Church of Boone and to the Fred O. Erbe Scholarship Fund at Concordia University in St. Paul, MN.

Schroeder-Walter Funeral Home of



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Surviving are his wife Jean of Grundy Center; two sons, Jim and wife Beckie Evans of Downers Grove, IL, and Lieutenant Colonel Charlie and Linda Evans of Fort Polk, LA;

seven grandchildren. Preceding him in death were his parents; and an infant son, Edward Giles Evans in 1960.

Jean was born September 30, 1929, in Marion the daughter of Harold and Blanche (McGuire) Mullaley. She graduated from Marion High School in 1947 and the University of Iowa in 1951 with a degree in Political Science. Jean worked as a legal secretary in Fort Wayne, IN, Chicago, and Cedar Rapids. On October 13, 1951, she was united in marriage to Ross Hopkins in Marion. After the couple moved to Grundy Center, Jean worked as the Assistant Clerk of Court in the Grundy County Courthouse for 15 years retiring in 1988.

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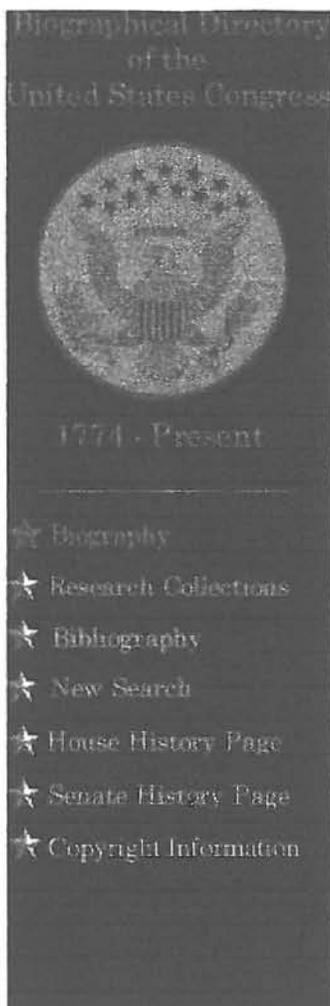
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Survivors include her husband, Donald; four children, Kaye Ann Hellmich, Donna (Mrs. John) Winter, Mary Lee Hellmich, Rick (Dee) Hellmich; step-children, Larry (Judy) Sawyer, Donna (Ron) Webster, Mike (Bonnie) Sawyer and Chuck (Vicki) Sawyer; seven grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and two brothers.



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## EVANS, Thomas Cooper, 1924-

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EVANS, Thomas Cooper, a Representative from Iowa; born in Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa, May 26, 1924; attended the public schools; attended St. Andrews University, Scotland, 1948; B.S., Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, 1949, and M.S., 1955; graduated from Oak Ridge School of Reactor Technology, Oak Ridge, Tenn., 1956; served in the United States Army, Infantry, 1943-1946; Corps of Engineers, lieutenant colonel, 1949-1965; engineer and farmer; president, Evans Farms, Inc., 1965-1980; Grundy County Board of Property Tax Review, 1968-1974; served in the Iowa house of representatives, 1975-1979; delegate, Iowa State Republican conventions, 1966-1978; elected as a Republican to the Ninety-seventh and to the two succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1981-January 3, 1987); was not a candidate for reelection in 1986; is a resident of Grundy Center, Iowa.