

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Clark, Betty Jean "Beje" Senator

Represented Cerro Gordo County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 18 Apr 1920 Kansas City, Missouri

2. Marriage (s) date place

Homer O. Clark 1950

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business She was a member of the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Women; published and editor of the editor of the "Periodical Key"

B. Civic responsibilities Chamber of Commerce; P.E.O.

C. Profession Homemaker; teacher; news editor

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd General Assemblies
1977-1978, 1979-1980, 1981-1982, 1983-1984, 1985-1986, 1987-1988,

6. Public Offices 1989-1990

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 10 Apr 2005 Mason City, Iowa

8. Children Peggy (Mrs. Reed); Mark; Paul; Stephen (predeceased his mother in death)

9. Names of parents Rev. Raymond C. and Mary (Hunt) Walker

10. Education She graduated from Fort Hayes, Kansas High School

11. Degrees She attended the Ft. Hayes Kansas State College, University of Utah, University of the Pacific and Garrett Evangelical Seminary

12. Other applicable information Republican

- She sang with the Betty Lavonne Trio more than 30 years. She taught piano and directed 13 choral groups in California, Utah and Iowa.
- She edited 4 church papers, published a religious periodical index, wrote for many national periodicals.
- In 1956, she and her sister compiled a book of meditations from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible which was published.
- She taught in the Mason City school system.

GLOBE GAZETTE

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MASON CITY/CLEAR LAKE, IOWA

Public servant, ex-legislator Clark dies

By JAN HORGEN
Of The Globe Gazette

ROCKWELL — The passionate, plain-spoken voice of former Iowa legislator Betty Jean "Beje" Clark is now silent.

Clark, 84, died Sunday at Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit.

A public servant to the core, Clark was known for her bipartisan efforts for the youth of Iowa, on women's issues and education during her seven terms in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1976 to 1990.

Although she was a Republican, Clark often reached across the aisle to Democrats on issues she felt needed to be addressed.



Clark

person; could be quite a tease when she wanted."

Deo Koenigs, a St. Ansgar Democrat who served many years in the House with Clark, remembers that sense of humor and that strong sense of purpose.

"When Beje got up to speak, it was quiet in the Statehouse. People listened, because she was not up often," said Harriet Stromer, wife of the late Del Stromer, a fellow Republican who served in the House of Representatives with Clark.

"Everything was business, until she thought of a joke," Stromer said. "Beje was a fun

"Beje was terribly kind and very, very concerned about poor people and what could be done to help," Koenigs said. "She was a person of real purpose."

And integrity, those who knew Clark say. "When Beje believed in something, you knew exactly where she stood," Rep. Linda Upmeyer, R-Garner, said.

Clark was a role model and mentor for Upmeyer, the daughter of Del and Harriet Stromer, who grew up watching her father and Clark champion causes.

"Beje thought women brought a unique perspective to government," Upmeyer said, recalling that Clark continued to have an interest in
See CLARK, A2

STATUS OF WOMEN: A SPECIAL REPORT

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Death penalty reinstatement likely to fail

□ Proposal inspired by kidnapping, murder of girl, 10

By DAN GEARINO
Globe Des Moines Bureau

DES MOINES — A Sen.

by at the Globe Gazette and try hard to avoid our errors and use this space to set the want to hear from you when we're in error,

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"Ask Us"

The Globe Gazette will try to answer questions of common interest on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays on the North Iowa page.

Call (641) 421-0565 and leave your question on the machine.

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and satisfaction are more important to them than loyalty, she said.

"I think that women, because they're women, bring a perspective to the work force that is very important and very needed," Anderson said, "I think especially when you're talking about satisfaction and being able to manage future workers."

Knowing what motivates individuals and rewarding them accordingly, whether that means allowing flexibility to attend a son's baseball game or monetary incentives, is part of that, she said.

Workplaces geared to being "kinder, more sensitive" are an opportunity for women to use their natural skills,

City; funeral director, Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel

Originally from Eagle Grove, Farwell started working at Hogan Bremer Moore about 1 1/2 years ago.



Farwell

Pittsburgh and out East there were more women enrolled than there were men," Farwell said.

Compassion and under-

interfere. "I think our schools and does a good job of making sure that our children of education are equal and gender-equital nos said.

Marinos, who has four daughters and said she always told her daughters they can do anything guys can do.

She sees value in individual contributions, individuals "trying to prove themselves in young women encouraging them to be more self-assured to take the risk that sometimes men are willing to take further their careers in their business."

Kathy Schladwe

Clark was 'tenacious lady'

Clark

From Page A1

politics and the Legislature long after leaving the Statehouse.

"She was a tenacious lady. She did not give up," Upmeyer said. Not even when an automobile accident confined Clark to a wheelchair.

In a 2003 Globe Gazette interview, Clark talked of the many issues for which she fought — juvenile offender and restorative justice programs, establishment of halfway houses — saying those "are what I am the most proud of."

Beje Clark Residential Center in Mason City is a tribute to Clark's life and public service.

That faith in the goodness of others never dimmed in Clark.

Born April 18, 1920, in Kansas City, the daughter of a Methodist minister, she married Homer Clark in 1950 and moved to Rockwell when he took a job teaching in the Mason City school system.

Clark's ability to intertwine

her Christian beliefs with homespun humor was never more evident than in her final address on the floor of the Iowa House in April 1990, when she thanked colleagues for their contributions to her "spiritual growth."

"I had to pray harder in this House than I ever had to pray in my life to get over being mad at some of you, and on occasion realize it might be possible that you were right and I was wrong. I come out of here a lot better prayer than when I came in, because it was necessary," Clark said.

Reach Jan Horgen at 421-0534 or jan.horgen@globegazette.com.

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OBITUARIES

Jerry Lee Dannen

LATIMER — Jerry Lee Dannen, 68, of Latimer, died Saturday (April 9, 2005) at his farm in Latimer.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Zion Reformed Church in rural Sheffield with the Rev. Arthur J. Zewert officiating. Burial will be at Zion Reformed Church Cemetery, rural Sheffield.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Sietsema-Vogel Funeral home in Hampton.

Jerry Lee Dannen was born to Peter and Effie (Dirksen) Dannen on Nov. 7, 1936, at his parents' farm, where he lived his entire life. He was educated at the Franklin Consolidated School in Latimer. After graduation, he worked for Wilbert and Margot Borcharding on their farm.

Jerry entered the Army in 1960 and was stationed in Germany for a short time until 1962. On his return home from the Army, Jerry bought the family farm near Latimer.

He married Angeline P. Munnik on June 21, 1968, at the Little Brown Church in Nashua.

Jerry stopped farming in 1973 and went to work for Sukup Manufacturing in Sheffield. He worked as a welder for 26 years and retired in July 1999.

During his life he went to church at Zion Reformed Church, rural Sheffield.

Being outside and being around his grandchildren was a great love to Jerry. Working on small lawns, mowing lawns, planting gardens, helping his family and tending to



Virginia M. Farrell

MASON CITY — Virginia M. Farrell, 82, of 416 26th St. S.W. died Saturday evening (April 9, 2005) at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa, Mason City.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd St. S.E. in Mason City with the Rev. Kenneth Gehling officiating. Inurnment will be at a later date in Resthaven Cemetery, West Des Moines.

The family will greet relatives and friends from noon until the time of the service on Wednesday at Fullerton Funeral Home.

Those planning memorials or an expression of sympathy may direct them to the Virginia M. Farrell Memorial Fund

Thoughts, condolences and stories may be e-mailed to the family at www.fullertonfh.com.

Fullerton Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 123 2nd St. SE, Mason City, (641) 423-8676.

www.fullertonfh.com.

Leonor Rodriguez

ROCKWELL — Leonor Rodriguez, 77, of Rockwell, died Sunday (April 10, 2005) at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Family Catholic Church with the Rev. Jon M. Seda officiating.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, at Hogen Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel,

Betty Jean 'Beje' Clark

ROCKWELL — Betty Jean "Beje" Clark, 84, of Rockwell died Sunday (April 10, 2005) at Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit, Mason City.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church, 119 S. Georgia, Mason City, with the Rev. Jim Stiles and the Rev. Jo Frahm-Watkins officiating.

A gathering of family and friends will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Major Erickson Funeral Home, 111 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Mason City.

Memorials may be directed to the Beje Clark Memorial Fund.

Major Erickson Funeral Home, (641) 423-0924.

Steve Thompson

KENSETT — Steve Thompson, 53, of rural Kensett, died Sunday (April 10, 2005) at his home.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete with Conner Colonial Chapel, 1008 1st Ave. South, Northwood.

Conner Colonial Chapel, (641) 324-1543.

www.colonialchapels.com.

FUNERALS TUESDAY

HOLSTAD, Marian A., 85, of Lake Mills, 1:30 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church, Lake Mills.

LEE, Albert B., 91, of Riceville, 2 p.m. at Saratoga Presbyterian Church in Saratoga, Iowa.

DAILY CALENDAR

Items for the calendar should be sent at least two weeks prior to the event to DAILY CALENDAR, Globe-Gazette, P.O. Box 271, Mason City.

IOWA

Johnson sup standards fo

IOWA CITY (AP) — The Job Board of Supervisors wants to r done mobile homes safer after 10-year-old girl who was abducted Cedar Rapids home was discovered trailer near Iowa City.

The supervisors began talks t up standards for vacant mobile unincorporated areas after the Gage was found in a rundown n rural Johnson County last mon Robert Paul Bentley, 37, a re offender, is charged with first-d and kidnapping in the case.

Gage was abducted from her March 24. Her body was found the abandoned mobile home th Supervisor Mike Lehman said should take action to keep aban homes and other structures fro unsafe. Without such a policy, th do little to make owners of such clean them up and make them s

Another problem the supervi resolve is absentee owners.

"We can't penalize the residen they don't own the property," Le "We're trying to figure out how them out when there are probl

Harry Hesseltine II, manag Mobile Home Community, said are boarded up with 4-inch-long but people break windows or te off and strip the interior.

NORTH IOWA

MS fund-raising walk sch

MASON CITY — The Ninth Ar scleriosis research will be held S. City.

Registration is at 8 a.m. The w NIACC dorms.

The walk extends 2.15 miles w go River, and back again, organi provided at both ends of the walk

Prizes and giveaways will be a National Multiple Sclerosis Socie

Last year's walk raised more th Upon registering, participants r lected personally or through e-m. Pledges are used to support lc

Sandra Sue Ohrt

CLEAR LAKE — Sandra Sue Ohrt, 65, of Clear Lake died Wednesday (April 13, 2005) at Muse-Norris Hospice

Inpatient Unit, Mason City.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Forum of the Kinney Lindstrom Center at

Opportunity Village with Pastor Barb Schunke officiating. A private inurnment will be at Memorial Park Cemetery, Mason City.

Visitation will be one hour before the service on Saturday. Sandra was born March 14, 1940, at the Ellsworth Municipal Hospital in Iowa Falls, the daughter of Herbert R. and Nellie Harriet (Place) Ohrt. She has been in living arrangements with Opportunity Village since September of 1972.

She enjoyed fishing, embroidering linen tablecloths, the Hawkeyes, helping others and especially enjoyed working at her jobs. She worked at NIVC (North Iowa Vocational Center), Happy Chef as a dishwasher and Opportunity Village doing piece-rate assembly and packaging.

Sandra is survived by her brothers, Herbert R. (Sandra) Ohrt of Iowa City and John R. Ohrt, Mesa, Ariz.; niece Kimothy (Gary) Hamer of Marion; nephew Herb "Buddy" Ohrt, Iowa City and two great nieces Wendy and Sarah Hamer, Marion.

Sandra was preceded in death by her parents. Memorials may be given to Opportunity Village in memory of Sandra.

Ward-Van Slyke Colonial Chapel, 101 N. 4th St., Clear Lake, (641) 357-2193
www.colonialchapels.com



(641) 592-0221

MITTELSTADT
Funeral Home and Cremation

Bernice L. Rygh

LAKE MILLS — Bernice L. Rygh, 92, of Lake Mills

Betty Jean 'Beje' Clark

ROCKWELL — Betty Jean 'Beje' Clark, 84, of Rockwell died Sunday (April 10, 2005)

at the Muse-Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit in Mason City.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday at First United Methodist

Church, 111 South Georgia Ave., with the Rev. Jim Stiles and the Rev. Jo Frahm-Watkins officiating.

A gathering of family and friends will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Major Erickson Funeral Home, 111 North Pennsylvania Ave.

Betty Jean Walker Clark was born April 18, 1920, in Kansas City, Kansas, to Raymond C. and Mary Hunt Walker. She graduated from Hays (Kansas) High School and attended Fort Hays Kansas State College, the University of Utah and the College of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif., for her undergraduate work, and Garrett Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, Ill., for graduate work.

She was active in the music field singing in the Betty Lavonn Trio with her sister for more than 30 years, teaching piano and directing 13 choral groups in California, Utah and Iowa.

Over the years she edited four church papers, published a religious periodical index, wrote for many national periodicals and Indiana and Iowa newspapers. In 1956 she and her sister compiled a book of meditations from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, which was published by Thomas Nelson and Sons. The book was reprinted in 1992.

Beje directed the program for Iowa State students at Collegiate Methodist Church in Ames from 1948 to 1951. Here she met and married Homer Clark.

The family moved to Mason City in 1959 and became members of Wesley United

Methodist Church. Always active in church work, Beje held local, district and conference offices in United Methodist Women. She was on the staff of First United Methodist Church as Christian education director for seven years and financial secretary for five years.

In 1976 she was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives, where she served from 1977 to 1990. Her in-depth work on criminal and juvenile justice resulted in a governor's appointment to the Advisory Council to the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning. She chaired Iowa's Justice Fellowship Task Force and served on the boards of several other justice groups.

Beje headed the Restorative Justice Commission for the state of Iowa and as a result of her dedication and public service the Beje Clark Residential Center was founded to enhance public safety by providing structured, correctional supervision to male and female offenders in a community-based setting.

Beje was a member of the United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, P.E.O Chapter LB., League of Women Voters, Rockwell Federated Woman's Club and Federation of Republican Women.

She is survived by her husband, Homer, their daughter, Peggy Read in Mason City, and two sons, Mark and wife Marie, Paul and wife Pam, all of Mason City; seven grandchildren: Mike (Rhonda) Andrews of Cedar Rapids, Jason Andrews of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Cole Read of Mason City, Nicholas Clark of Tampa, Fla., Danielle, Jared and Mackenzie Clark, all of Mason City and one great granddaughter, Jadyn Devine.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three sisters, one son, Stephen, and one grandson, Nathan Andrews.

Memorials may be directed to the Beje Clark Memorial Fund.

Major Erickson Funeral Home, (641) 423-0924.

Wendell 'Doc' Hobbs Eugene Everett

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