

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Broers, Roger Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Cerro Gordo County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 13 June 1939 Rockwell, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Carolyn J. Kellogg 19 Aug 1961 Mason City, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

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

B. Civic responsibilities 4-H leader

C. Profession farmer; teacher

4. Church membership Lutheran

5. Sessions served 79<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 2001

6. Public Offices

A. Local Cerro Gordo County supervisors; president of the Cerro Gordo County Extension Council and the Rural Business C-ops

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

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

7. Death 30 Sept 2002 Mason City, Iowa, buried Elmwood Cemetery, Mason City, Iowa

8. Children Karla (Mrs. Michael J. Judd); Deborah (Mrs. Robert J. Bosch); Steven (died in infancy)

9. Names of parents Arthur J. and Alfreda L. (Halbock) Broers

Broers, Roger

10. Education He graduated from the Mason City, Iowa High School in 1957

11. Degrees He attended Mason City Junior College; graduated from Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa; MA from Bemidji State, Bemidji, Minnesota

12. Other applicable information He taught school for 20 years at Twin Rivers, Nora Springs High Schools and John Adams Middle School in Mason City. Then he retired from teaching to farms full time.



## Steere

Funeral services for Harlan H. Steere, 52, of 17221 Keystone Ave., Allison, will be 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. James Lutheran Church in Allison with the Rev. Jerry Laehn officiating. Burial will be in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Greene.

Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. today at Reid's Funeral Chapel in Greene and one hour prior to services at the church.

## Harlan H. Steere

**ALLISON** — Funeral services for Harlan H. Steere, 52, of 17221 Keystone Ave., Allison, will be 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. James Lutheran Church in Allison with the Rev. Jerry Laehn officiating. Burial will be in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Greene.



Steere

Cemetery in Greene.

Visitation will be 2 to 8 p.m. today at Reid's Funeral Chapel in Greene and one hour prior to services on Friday at the church.

Harlan Henry Steere was born May 29, 1950, on the family farm in Coldwater Township, Butler County, a son of William Jr. and Mildred (Rover) Steere. He died Tuesday (Oct. 1, 2002) along with his son, Brock, as a result of a farming accident near their home.

He received his education in the Greene Public Schools, graduating in 1968. Having grown up on the farm, he learned all the aspects of farming and land stewardship from his father and grandfather. Following graduation, he continued to work on the family farm.

He was united in marriage to Debra Jo Wangsness on Feb. 22, 1975, at St. James Lutheran Church in Allison. They lived east of Greene the first year of their marriage and then moved to their present farm. To this union were born four children, Renee, Brett, Jill and Brock.

Throughout his career as a farmer, he never lost sight of the principles of farming and stewardship that he was taught. He was precise and meticulous in the way he farmed and raised his livestock. The family tradition continued by him passing it on to his sons, who helped him on the farm.

## Roger A. Broers

**MASON CITY** — Roger A. Broers, 63, of 14072 200th St., died Monday (Sept. 30, 2002) at home.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at St. James Lutheran Church, 1148 Fourth St. S.E., with the Rev. Scott Duffus officiating. Interment will be in Elmwood Cemetery.



Broers

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Major Erickson Funeral Home, 111 N. Pennsylvania Ave., and one hour prior to services Friday at the church.

Memorials may be given to St. James Lutheran Church or Hospice of North Iowa.

Roger was born June 13, 1939, in Rockwell, Iowa, the son of Arthur J. and Alfreda L. (Halboth) Broers. He graduated from Mason City High School in 1957, attended Mason City Junior College and graduated from Wartburg College in Waverly.

He married Carolyn I. Kellogg on Aug. 19, 1961, at St. James Lutheran Church in Mason City.

He went on to receive a master's degree in English from Bemidji State in Bemidji, Minn. Roger taught for more than 20 years at Twin Rivers, Nora Springs High School and John Adams Middle School in Mason City. He retired from teaching to farm full-time.

He was elected as a Cerro Gordo County supervisor in 1995 and was re-elected in 1999. In 2000, he was elected to the state Legislature but announced early this year he would not seek a second term. He served as president of both the Cerro Gordo County Extension Council and the Burchinal Co-op, was a member of St. James Lutheran Church and a 4-H Leader.

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Throughout his career as a farmer, he never lost sight of the principles of farming and stewardship that he was taught. He was precise and meticulous in the way he farmed and raised his livestock. The family tradition continued by him passing it on to his sons, who helped him on the farm.  
He was a supporter of the 4-H program and enjoyed helping his children get ready for county and state fairs. He enjoyed going to the sale barns and seeing his friends and acquaintances there. The only time he would stop work would be for the grandchildren.  
He was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Butler County Farm Bureau and Pheasants Forever. Harlan was well-respected in the farming community, and a friend to many as well as a devoted husband, father and grandfather who cherished those special family times with his children and grandchildren.  
Living family members include his loving wife, Deb, of Allison; three children and their spouses, Renee (Michael) Salge of Greene, Brett Steere and his friend, Lisa Stauffer of Allison, and Jill (Mark) Lamborn of Luana, and Harlan's "Third Daughter," Lisa (Ternus) and her husband, Nate Gronewald of Albia; three grandchildren,

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He was elected as a Cerro Gordo County supervisor in 1995 and was re-elected in 1999. In 2000, he was elected to the state Legislature but announced early this year he would not seek a second term. He served as president of both the Cerro Gordo County Extension Council and the Burchinal Co-op, was a member of St. James Lutheran Church and a 4-H Leader.  
He enjoyed the time he spent with his daughters, Karla and Deb, with their 4-H horse-showing activities as well as the family camping trips.  
Roger is survived by his wife, Carolyn I. Broers, of Mason City; daughters, Karla Broers Geddes and her husband, Miko Ian, of Sheridan, Wyo., and Deborah Bosch and her husband, Bob J., of North Platte, Neb.; sisters Jeanette A. Pruin and her husband, Robert, of Seattle, Wash., and Linda L. Terrano and her husband, James, of Lincoln, Neb.; three aunts, Elsie Broers, of Mason City, Peggy Stephen and her husband, Earl, of Denver, Colo., and Helen Bröers, of Mason City; an uncle, Paul Kruggel, of St. Helens, Ore., and numerous nieces and nephews.  
Roger was preceded in death by his parents and an infant son, Steven.  
Major Erickson Funeral Home & Crematory, (641) 423-0924



DEB NICKLAY/The Globe Gazette

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# trees, trucks

near Oct. 12

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Virginia Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.  
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Target date for peak colors  
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of the south central part of  
the state, which is Oct. 20.

How vivid this year's colors  
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rain, wind and availability of  
sunlight, said Iowa State  
University Extension. Clear  
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Ronch Deb Nicklay at 421-0531 or  
dob.nicklay@globegazette.com.

# Broer's service elicits tributes

□ Legislator, former  
county supervisor  
and teacher is laud-  
ed as a statesman.

By JOHN SKIPPER  
Of The Globe Gazette

**MASON CITY** — Roger  
Broers was remembered  
Tuesday as a statesman and  
a gentleman who treated  
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and wit.



Broers

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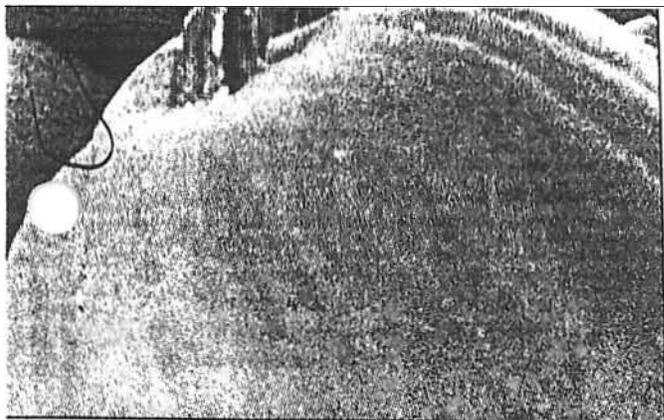
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DEB NICKLAY/The Globe Gazette

Pumpkins at the Kruse Pumpkin Patch, just west of Des Moines, have no bugs."

# trees, trucks

near Oct. 12

by Donna Furleigh of Clear Lake Farms, Clear Lake. "We've got good-sized pumpkins, good color. It's a top crop." Furleigh said there were good yields in the fields around Des Moines.

"The eggplant, this is a good one for you," she said. "I've never seen so many." The pumpkins are starting to turn orange and yellow. The weather in this area is quickly changing into "prime time." The Virginia creeper and the red maple are burnishing red, and the Department of Natural Resources Fall Color report, and it will be another week before the trees burst with their most brilliant hues. Target date for peak colors in North Iowa is Oct. 12. That will be the same for most of the state, with the exception of the south central part of the state, which is Oct. 20. How vivid this year's colors will be depends on variations of temperature, moisture, rain, wind and availability of sunlight, said Iowa State University Extension. Clear days, cool nights and dry conditions tend to promote high quality fall colors.

Reach Deb Nicklay at 421-0531 or deb.nicklay@globegazette.com.

See CLAUSEN, A2

# st will put own om on line in Iraq

weeks as part of what is being called an emergency peace team.

The team will accompany Iraqi civilians in areas such as schools, hospitals and bomb shelters "primarily in Baghdad, but also other cities as the need arises," Clausen said. The hope is that if the United States does target Saddam Hussein, it will avoid bombing areas where the peace teams are gathered.

"Anyone who has a concern for Iraq is invited to join," she said.

It is currently against the law for Americans to travel to Iraq or to have financial transactions in that country, Clausen said.

"It is a civil disobedience action, which

See BROERS, A2

Tuesday as a statesman and a gentleman who treated people with kindness, compassion and wit.



Broers

Broers, 62, a former Cerro Gordo County supervisor who was completing his first term in the state Legislature, died Monday night at his home.

"He was a true statesman," said Iowa Speaker of the House Brent Siegrist. "We will remember his hard work on behalf of the people of his community and his adherence to principles."

Politician had a way with words that cut to the heart of issues.

Page A2

House Majority Leader Christopher Rants said, "He was a true gentleman and he exemplified all the characteristics and attributes of a good legislator. He was never afraid to speak up in caucus, even when it was one of those things his fellow caucus members didn't want to hear. I think he was very well respected for that," said Rants.

Officials at the Cerro Gordo County Courthouse were stunned by the news of Broers' death.

"Roger was a good elected official but more importantly, he was a good person," said Supervisor Jay Urdahl. "He was genuinely nice to people. He had a manner about him that put people at ease.

"He was so willing to share and he really communicated well. One of the things I appreciated about Roger was that when we would talk, he seemed to know what I was thinking and I knew what he was thinking. He was that way with everybody. He understood. He got it. People appreciated that about him.

"He would say some funny things sometimes

See BROERS, A2

PROFESSIONALS  
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2002

In 1919, President Wilson suffered a stroke that left him partially paralyzed.

In 1941, German armies began Operation "Typhoon" — a all-out drive against

In 1944, Nazi troops pushed the 2-month-old Warsaw Uprising, during which 30,000 people were killed.

In 1950, the comic strip "Peanuts," created by Charles Schulz, was first published in nine newspapers.

In 1958, the former French colony of Guinea in West Africa proclaimed its independence.

In 1985, actor Rock Hudson died at his home in Beverly Hills, Calif., at age 59 after a battle with AIDS.

In 1990, the Senate voted 99-0 to confirm the nomination of Judge David H. Souter to the Supreme Court.

## CORRECTIONS

The Globe Gazette solicits reports of mistakes and inaccurate information that may have appeared in its news columns. To make such a correction, please call the phone 421-0524 or toll-free (800) 421-0524 and ask for the city editor.

## LOTTERIES

### Iowa Lotteries

Cash Game: 7-15-16-23-

Pick 3: 5-4-3

### Minnesota Lotteries

Daily 3: 6-0-9

Gopher 5: 9-19-26-36-40, bonus ball 17.

## CONTACTS, SUBSCRIPTIONS

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# Friends remember dedication

## Broers

From Page A1

that were right on the money. One of my favorites was when he was a supervisor and an issue would come up that he wanted to think about, he would say, 'it's time for some creative foot-dragging.' That's a classic," said Urdahl.

Supervisor Bob Amosson said Broers used to fret about how long it took to get some things accomplished. "He would say, 'there's the government way and then there's the easy way.' When he was the head of the Burchinal Co-Op, our meetings would sometimes go until one in the morning. I talked to Roger about the length of the meetings and he'd say, 'I want everyone to have as much time as they need so we make the right decision.' It's hard to argue with that," said Amosson.

Supervisor Phil Dougherty said he never served with Broers but was with him on many occasions and was struck by his neighborly approach to everyone he met. "He was always stopping and talking to people and asking them how they were — and he really wanted to know," said Dougherty.

Jim Kuhlman, former education director of the Iowa State University Extension Service in Cerro Gordo County, worked for Broers for seven years when Broers was president of the Extension Council.

"ROGER DIDN'T MAKE QUICK decisions, but when he made one, it was always the right one," said Kuhlman. "He was knowledgeable and fair and was a great supporter of kids and young 4-H members. He loved to chat. Everyone who knew Roger will tell you that. He was a wonderful man and I admired him greatly."

Mason City Mayor Bill Schickel, a first-time candidate for the state Legislature, said, "I talked to Roger many times about being a candidate. He was such a down-to-earth guy and so low-key. Roger was always encouraging and always brought a sense of stability to whatever he was involved in."

Swaledale Mayor John Drury did not work directly with Broers but said Swaledale has a sewer system because of Broers' efforts. "He spearheaded the project and he saw it through. Without him, we wouldn't have it. And it's now a model for other communities our size," said Drury.

Broers attended Mason City Junior College and had intended to continue his education at Iowa State University through a naval training program grant. But he got hurt playing football and couldn't pass the physical, he said in a 1995 interview.

He dropped out of college for two years, got married, and later went back to school. He graduated from Wartburg College in Waverly and went on to receive a master's degree in English from Bemji State University in Des Moines, where

He taught English for more than 20 years

## 'Broer-isms' abound

MASON CITY — Roger Broers, who had a master's degree in English, had a unique gift of sizing up situations with memorable phrases that came to be known as "Broer-isms" around the Cerro Gordo County Courthouse.

■ He once told a Globe Gazette reporter the biggest challenge of a public official. "It's to convince people that government exists to do things for you, not to you," he said.

■ In October 1995, he became anxious to make a decision regarding a tough issue that he thought had been discussed long enough by the supervisors. "When you're on a sinking ship, you can spend only so much time criticizing the floatation devices," he said.

■ Later that same year, supervisors discussed the preserving of important documents. Broers advocated looking at all possibilities and investing in the best. "If you've got something worth saving, you don't put it on a high, windy hill," he said.

■ At a campaign rally for presidential candidate Bob Dole in 1996, Broers told a crowd of Republicans, "Voting is a lot like farming. There are times you have to make a choice and you sometimes have to live with that choice for a long, long time."

■ After serving four months in the Legislature, Broers fretted last year about partisan bickering. "There's a whole lot of U-Haul Analysis going on in Des Moines," he said. "It's all about who will move on an issue and who won't."

■ Broers loved the legislative process. In a 2001 interview with The Globe Gazette, he said, "You go through a tremendous range of emotions, almost on a daily basis. Sometimes you laugh, sometimes you're angry enough to bite nails, and then something might happen that practically brings you to tears. You always have to remember that on almost every issue, about half the people disagree with you, but all of them sincerely care. It's not a frivolous group."

Reach John Skipper at 421-0537 or john.skipper@globegazette.com.

at Nora Springs-Rock Falls High School and at John Adams Middle School in Mason City. He served as president of both the Cerro Gordo County Extension Council and the Burchinal Co-op.

He was elected as a Cerro Gordo County supervisor in 1995 and was re-elected in 1999. In 2000, he was elected to the state Legislature but announced earlier this year he would not seek a second term for health reasons.

Urdahl recalls conversations he had with Broers about his possible run for the Legislature. "I played the devil's advocate because I didn't want to lose him as a supervisor," said Urdahl. "What he told me really hits home today.

"He said he was going to run because he didn't know how many birthdays he had left and this was something he really wanted to do."

Reach John Skipper at 421-0537 or john.skipper@globegazette.com.

# State Rep. Broers, 63, dies at Mason City home

By LYNN OKAMOTO  
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Roger Broers, a Mason City Republican and farmer who had three months left in his first term in the Iowa House, died Monday of a heart ailment. He was 63.



His wife of 41 years, Carolyn, said his health had worsened since a 1993 heart attack in which he had lost function in 40 percent of his heart. He collapsed outside his home about 7:30 p.m. Monday as he was about to go inside for supper.

"We still farmed a reduced number of acres," Carolyn Broers said. "He was in the process of unloading a load of corn he brought in and collapsed in the yard."

Mr. Broers was elected to the Legislature in November 2000, replacing Rep. Gary Blodgett, a Clear Lake Republican. Mr. Broers chose not to seek re-election this fall because of health concerns. Friends and family members said he loved his time in the Legislature.

"He valued his experience in Des Moines tremendously," Carolyn Broers said. "He enjoyed so thoroughly working with the various people in the House on both sides of

the chamber. It was an experience that he wouldn't have given up for anything."

In April, Mr. Broers became emotional as he gave his retirement speech on the House floor. "This has been one of the most rewarding experiences," he said. "It's been an honor to serve."

Friends and family members described him as low-key and a problem solver who didn't get bogged down in minutia. He was outspoken on education and the environment.

"Roger epitomized all the good qualities in a legislator. He was a person who was not afraid to speak up in our caucus," said House Majority Leader Christopher Rants, a Sioux City Republican.

"He loved public service," said Mason City Mayor Bill Schickel, who knew Mr. Broers for 10 years. "He loved to encourage other people to become involved in public service."

Mr. Broers was born in Rockwell and had lived in Mason City most of his life. He was a former county supervisor and had served as the board's chairman before being elected to the Legislature.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters. Major-Erickson Funeral Home in Mason City is handling funeral arrangements, which are pending.

*This obituary was taken from the Wednesday, October 2, 2002 issue of The Des Moines Register, Des Moines, Iowa.*