Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Thomas, Roger Dean Senator _____

Representative Clayton County, Iowa - resides in Elkader, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 13 Dec 1950 Oelwein, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Rosemary Barker 6 June 1970 Elgin, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Central Ambulance Service; Northeast Iowa Community College Foundation; 4-H leader

C. Profession Farmer; paramedic; firefighter

4. Church membership Lutheran

5. Sessions served 77th 78th 80th 81st 82nd 83rd Special Sessions - 1997-1998; 1999-2000; 2003-2004; 2005-2006; 2007-2008; 2009-2010

6. Public Offices

A. Local Clayton County Extension Council; Northeast Iowa Community College Board of Trustees

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death _____

8. Children Rob; Ryan; Rachelle

9. Names of parents Art and Gladys Thomas

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

Thomas, Roger Dean

10. Education Graduate of Valley Community School, Elgin, Iowa

11. Degrees B.S. in Public Administration from Upper Iowa University, Fayette, Iowa

12. Other applicable information Democrat

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

Thomas, Roger Dean

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
State Historical Society of Iowa Questionnaire ✓			
Iowa Official Register 2007-2008, p. 71			
Heritage of Fayette County, Iowa, 1996, p. 304			

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

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY of IOWA

NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE OR SENATOR Roger Thomas

1. BIRTHDATE AND PLACE Oelwein IA

2. MARRIAGE(S) TO WHOM/DATE/PLACE Rosemary Barker June 6th 1970

3. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. BUSINESS Family Farm

B. CIVIC DUTIES Northeast Iowa Community College Foundation, Masonic Lodge, Central Ambulance Service,

C. PROFESSION Farmer, paramedic

4. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION* Luthern

5. NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS SERVED 3

6. PUBLIC OFFICES HELD

A. LOCAL Clayton County Extension Council, Northeast Iowa Community College Board of Trustees

B. STATE State Representative House District 32; Curraty House District 24

C. NATIONAL

7. CHILDREN Rob, Ryan, Rachelle

8. NAMES OF PARENTS Art & Gladys Thomas, Wadena, IA

*Optional information

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

9. Education Graduated High School, Valley Community School, Elgin

10. Degrees Attained B.S. Public Administration

11. Other Paramedic, IA Dept. of Public Health

Please attach any additional information you would like to include.

State Historical Society of Iowa

Return form to:
State Historical Society of Iowa Library
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, IA 50319

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

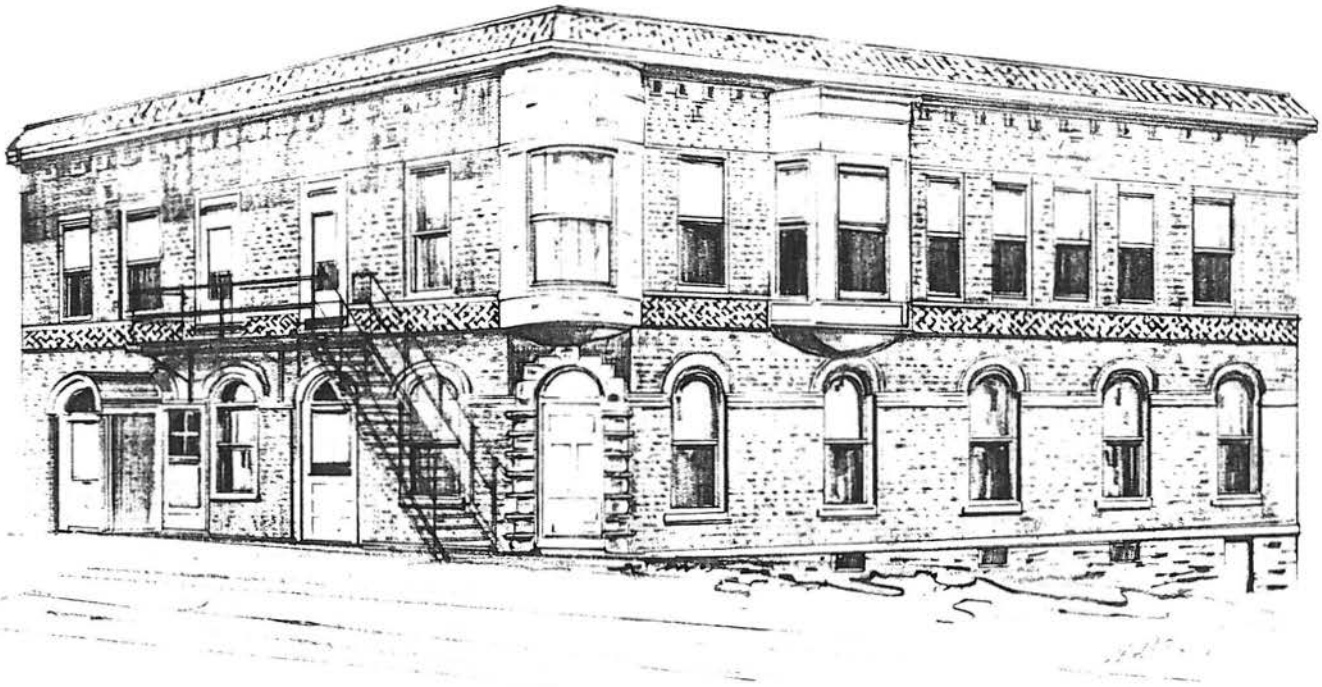
Thomas, Roger - Elkader (D)
District 24

Term: Serving fifth term in House. **Profession:** Economic Development/Main Street Director, farmer, and paramedic. **Education:** Graduated from Valley Community High School. Received B.S. in public administration from Upper Iowa University. **Military Service:** Served in the U.S. Air Force. **Memberships and Activities:** Trustee for Northeast Iowa Community College, Foundation board member NICC, Central Ambulance Service. Served as president of the Northeast Iowa Emergency Medical Council, Clayton County Farm Bureau board member, 4-H leader, Extension Council member, and fire fighter. Member of the advisory board for the National Ag Safety Center and Farm Bureau. **Birth and Residence:** Born in 1950 in Oelwein Resides in Elkader. **Family Members:** Wife Rosemary; two sons, one daughter, and four grandchildren.

Iowa Official Register 2007-2008, p 77

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

HERITAGE OF



Fayette County Historical Society
& Fayette County Geneglogical Society
West Union, Iowa

FAYETTE COUNTY IOWA 1996

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

'ears on Fayette County Extension Council, and erved as adjutant of American Legion Sheehan-)lson Post 375. He was an ardent sportsman, hunting, fishing & raising dogs) and was inter-sted in conservation. At the time of his tragic le[illegible] he was widely known as a breeder of [illegible]shire hogs and owned one of the finest he[illegible] in NE Iowa. Their sons are in the restaurant, grocery and catering business: Michael and Lana Thoma of LeClaire, IA, have a son, Keith. Daughter, Brandi (June 17,1975/Dec. 14,1975) died during open heart surgery at age six months. Jeffrey Thoma, Durant, IA has children, Bryan, Aaron and Kristin. Christie and Carol Thoma, Durant, IA, have children, Scott and Elizabeth.
Submitted by Chrystol (Miller) Thoma Hansen

CLARENCE AND DOROTHY (GEPHART) THOMAN

Clarence Charles Thoman, born August 11, 1906, Elgin, Fayette County, Iowa, son of Timothy and Salome (Frieden) Thoman, married Dorothy Marium (Gephart) Kuhens, of Elgin, Iowa, June 23, 1983.

Clarence and Dorothy Thoman

Tim, as his father was called, immigrated from Rheinland Pfalz, Germany, at the age of seventeen to elude the political turmoil of the time. Upon arrival in Elgin he was employed as a well driller. Salome Frieden's parents immigrated from Switzerland. She was born in rural Fayette County, near Elgin.

At the age of three Clarence moved with his parents to a farm in Illyria Township, Section 5, just off Route 56, where he lived and farmed for sixty-two years. He attended Fayette County rural schools and graduated from Elgin High School in 1924.

Besides farming, Clarence also worked for the Fayette County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service for sixteen years.

In 1969, Clarence and his sister Alta bought a home in Elgin where he still lives with his wife, Dor[illegible]y. Dorothy, daughter of Floyd and Eva Va[illegible]ert) Gephart, was born August 23, 1909, Fai[illegible]d, Iowa.

Both Clarence and Dorothy have been involved in community activities. They organized the Elgin Historical Society in 1984, and he was elected the first President.

Clarence has been a long time member of the Elgin Community Club and the Illyria Community Church where he served in several capaci-

ARTHUR AND GLADYS (WITTORF) THOMAS

Arthur Lloyd Thomas and Gladys Wittorf were married Sept. 4, 1940, in St. John's Lutheran Church, Arlington. They are the parents of three children, Ronald Eugene, presently living in Glendale, Arizona, Barbara Lee Campbell of Davenport, IA, and Roger Dean living on the home farm near Elkader, IA.

Arthur and Gladys Thomas - 40th Wedding Anniversary, July 1980

Art and Gladys were farmers at heart, raising and showing Charolois cattle for many years. They also operated several supper clubs in the area for approximately 30 years, namely Airport Inn near Elkader, Swiss Miss at National, IA, and the Valley Inn in Wadena. All were famous for the bar-b-que ribs and fish and chicken buffets.

Gladys later went back to school and became a nursing home administrator in New Hampton, IA. Arthur continued farming and worked as a carpenter building many new homes in the Strawberry Point area. He was a member of the National and State Charolois Associations, serving as junior Charolais leader for many years. Gladys was also involved, serving as the executive secretary of the association for eight years. Illness forced Arthur to retire and he passed away March 8, 1989.

Gladys is active in many civic affairs, serving as an advocate for senior citizens on several area and state councils. She was an older Iowan legislator, presently serves as coordinator of the Fayette Food Shelf and resides in Wadena.

Arthur was the son of Prentis and Martha Thomas. Gladys is the adopted daughter of Jacob and Esther Wittorf.
Submitted by Gladys Thomas

HOWARD F. AND MARIE (BRACKIN) THOMAS

Marie Clara Brackin was born October 11, 1915, daughter of Louise Miller and John Butler Brackin. She married Howard Franklin Thomas September 17, 1932, in the Christian Church at Oelwein.

Howard Franklin Thomas, son of James and Luseva (Voshell) Thomas, was born in Clayton County on February 2, 1909. He was the oldest of fifteen children. He began working at the age of ten for Arlington and Wadena farmers, everyone called him Tommy. His education was badly

Front: Marie and Howard Thomas; Middle: Mary Fisher and Vicki Hunt; Back: Robert Thomas, Nancy Greenfield, Wayne, Garth and Duke Thomas - 55th Wedding Anniversary, 1987

care of himself. He started working in 1925 for James Kennedy, who was "road boss" for Fayette County, driving horses, when winter came he stayed at the Kennedy's cutting wood, taking care of the horses and driving Dr. Wood on night calls.

Around 1928 the County purchased an excavator, which Tommy operated; they discontinued the use of horses. In the winter months he helped farmers for his room and board.

In 1930 the "road gang" camped in Brackin's yard and he began dating Marie.

He loved movies and dancing and was well known for boxing and professional poker playing. He gave up both of these before they were married.

In August of 1932 the banks closed and the road work was over. Tommy used his last paycheck to pay his creditors, buy a marriage license, pay the preacher and had three dollars left. There was no work anywhere!

In 1933 they buried their baby in the West Union Cemetery. In 1934 Tommy hired out to a farmer who had a house to live in. Wayne was born and after two years he went to Wadena farm, which was sold to Chicago people. The county engineer offered him his job back but Tommy said he liked farming better. Three children were born at Wadena, Mary, Robert and Nancy, all delivered by Dr. Wood. In 1944 the farm was sold and the Chicago people wanted him to go on an 800 acre farm in Illinois. They decided they would move back to Wadena in another year - but in April 1945 their three old daughter broke her neck; in July Vicki was born; in August Marie was in a car accident leaving her crippled; and in April 1946 Tommy had his right arm badly mangled, leaving a 50% permanent disability. The Chicago man wanted him to continue as working manager. Marie was the farm bookkeeper. He never was on welfare; paid his doctor bills. Howard, Jr. (or Duke) was born in 1947, Garth was born in 1949. He was very proud of his children. They all graduated from high school. Howard's farm operations and livestock raising were outstanding in the area.

To settle the estate, the farm was sold in 1973. Tommy retired within a mile of the place farmed. He passed away in 1988.

Our children: Wayne served four years on the submarine, Cusk, during the Korean clean-up. He now is an electrical maintenance man. Robert served two years in the infantry in Germany and during the Cuban crisis. He is a farm mechanic and parts manager. Howard Thomas, Jr. (Duke) served two years with the Hawks in Texas during the Vietnam period. He is a plumber. Garth had six years in the National Guard during the period of college riots and was a honor guard at Senator Everett Dirksen's funeral. He is a [illegible]

Mary, Nancy and Vicki did office work for several years with Del Monte in Rochelle. They

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