

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Clifford Senator Walter Orval  
Clifford - Represented Adams, Taylor, Fremont, Mills  
and Page Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 20 Aug 1903 Lenox, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place  
Dorothy L. Hymor 8 May 1926 Wentworth, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

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

B. Civic responsibilities Eastern Star, Mason, Shrine, Rotary

C. Profession Farmer; implement dealer; gasoline and oil  
business

4. Church membership Christian

5. Sessions served 59<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1961, 1963

6. Public Offices

A. Local Lenox school board; Lenox city councilman

B. State He served as assistant law clerk of the Senators  
the 1965-1967 general assemblies

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

7. Death 14 Aug 1979 Corning, Iowa; buried West Fairview Cemetery, Lenox, Iowa

8. Children Richard L.; Mary Joan (Mrs. Philip Hall)

9. Names of parents John W. and Belle Walter

10. Education Educated in schools of Lenox, Iowa  
Graduating in 1921

11. Degrees Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 1921-1925

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- 50 year member of the Iowa State University Alumni Association
- Wife, Dorothy, died 3 Jan 1976
- As a young man he helped his father with the family business of buying and selling livestock.



## Services Held For Orval C. Walter

Orval Clifford Walter was born on a farm west of Lenox, Iowa, on August 20, 1903 and passed away at the Rosary Hospital in Corning Aug. 14, 1979, at the age of 75 years, 11 months, and 24 days.

Orval was the son of Belle and John W. Walter. He lived all of his life in the Lenox community where he graduated from Lenox Independent High School in 1921, and attended Iowa State University from 1921-1925.

On May 8, 1926, he was married to Dorothy I. Wynn at Winterset, Iowa. They were blessed with two children, Richard of Lenox and Mary Joan Hall of Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Orval was a retired farmer and implement dealer. He was a member of the First Christian Church, serving as treasurer for 15 years, and elder for 20 years.

He was a 50-year member of the Order of Eastern Star, and was Dad Advisor for his 3 granddaughters in the Order of Rainbow for Girls.

He was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge, a member of the Za-Ga-Zig Shrine in Des

## Mary King Funeral Wednesday, Aug. 15

The funeral of Mary Althea King was August 15 at the Larkin-Bander Home, the Rev. Elmer West officiating. Music was by Deane Maherry, organist, and Donna Veatch, vocalist.

Casket bearers were Raymond Swank, Horace Brown, Charles King, Gary King, Art Chaney and Bud Carey. Interment was in Hopkins Cemetery. Mrs. King died Aug. 12 at the Care Center.

Moines, a member of Rotary International and a 50-year member of the Iowa State Alumni Association from which he received a special community service award.

He served two terms on both the Lenox School Board and the Lenox City Council.

Orval was a State Senator representing Adams and Taylor Counties in 1961-1963 and in the 1964 Special Session and was the assistant Law Clerk of the Senate in 1965, a member of the Democratic party.

Survivors include one son, Richard L. and wife Mildred of Lenox; one daughter, Mary Joan Hall and husband Philip of Spirit Lake; 9 grandchildren, Susan Yates and husband Gilbert, Omaha; Jeanne Masters and husband Jerold of Maryville, Mo.; Janis Christensen and husband Thomas of Lenox; David Walter and wife Sandra of Spirit Lake; Mark and

John Walter of Lenox; Philip Hall, Jr. and wife Sherie of Sioux City; Stephen and Charles Hall of Spirit Lake; 3 great grandchildren, Chadwick and Joshua Masters and Jennifer Yates. 2 brothers, Arnold of Quincy, Ill., and Harlan of Wickenburg, Ariz., and many other beloved relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife Dorothy Jan. 3, 1976, his parents, and 2 sisters, Bernice Mills and Glana McClintock.

Orval's whole life was dedicated to his wife and children and their families.

Funeral services were at the First Christian Church in Lenox Friday, Aug. 17 at 2 p.m., with Pastor Jack Cutbirth officiating.

Music was furnished by Ruth Boltinghouse, organist, with Shirley Riley and Karen Shawler, vocalists, singing 'My God and I.'

Casket bearers were his six grandsons, David, Mark, and John Walter, Philip, Stephan, and Charles Hall.

Honorary bearers were Paul Davis, Francis Folcey, Dow Keever, Glen Leckliter, and

Interment was in West Fairview Cemetery.

## Service For C.

Funeral services for C. were held Friday afternoon at the Lenox funeral home. Aug. 22 at Methodist Church. W.C. Trent, C. Glenn

17, 1895 of the son of Belle Barrage he was a faithful Methodist Church member.

He attended in Des Moines in accordance

Mo. He was a Chevrolet salesman in Kansas, accountant.

He moved to Des Moines was elected to the board of directors with Hale's as an account in 1962 to sell

He was receiving a certificate for a veteran's member of and was a

Survivors law, Mrs. Hale of Le

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miles

Take stock in America.

writing many genealogies of her relatives. In 1949 Homer and Beatrice moved one-half mile south on a farm in Taylor County.

Homer and Beatrice had one daughter, Coleen, born 1940. She graduated from Lenox High School and married LaRell Wilkinson from Prescott, son of Orville and Pauline Wilkinson. They settled on the farm where her parents had farmed. They had children — Melanie, born 1955, graduated from Lenox High School with honors and was a member of the Honorary Society. She married Steven Barker. They moved to Ames and attended college. Melanie graduated 1980 as a medical laboratory technician. Renae, born 1962, graduated from Lenox High School as valedictorian of her class, was honored as a State of Iowa Scholar, and was a member of the Honorary Society. She started a four-year course at Ames September 1980. LeAnne, born 1970, still attending school. All the family is active in church and community affairs.

Vernon married Charlotte Brown, daughter of LeRoy and Edith Brown. They lived in Corning, Iowa where Vernon hauled lime, gravel, and fertilizer to many farms. They had David, born 1957, a mechanic; married Lauri James and lives in Corning. Karl, born 1962, is a carpenter. Judy, born 1958, married Martin McCrary and lives in Washington State. Bonnie, born 1962, was an honor student and chosen queen of her class. She is studying to be a nurse. Homer and Beatrice moved to Lenox, 1974. Homer died July 29, 1980 and buried at East Fairview Cemetery, Lenox, Iowa. Submitted by Coleen Wilkinson

### JOHN WILLIAM WALTER

John William Walter was born November 1, 1872 on a farm near Corning, Iowa. He was the son of Henri and Maria Louisa (Schafroth) Walter. Both of his parents came to this country from Switzerland with their respective families, settling first in Ohio. In 1868 Henri and his wife left Ohio and settled on a farm near Corning. As a young man, John and his brothers herded cattle and other livestock on the open prairie of Mercer Township. In the 1890's John and his cousin, Charles, left Iowa for Oklahoma where they homesteaded on the Cherokee Strip. It was here that he met and married Belle Suman of Cushing, Oklahoma.

Belle Suman was the daughter of Jacob and Mary Ann (Bowman) Suman. Born in Soldier, Kansas, on August 19, 1881, she was eleven years old when her parents moved to a claim near Cushing. She remembered attending Sunday School in a sod building. Several years later her father opened a drug business in Cushing and they moved to town. Cushing was a frontier town at that time and she recalled the times when the Dalton Brothers would come to her father's house in the middle of the night to get medicine.

A year after they were married, John and Belle returned to Iowa and started farming on 80 acres 5½ miles west of Lenox. In the following years, John expanded his farming operation as well as becoming a buyer and shipper of livestock. In 1910 the family moved into Lenox. John continued to devote much of his time to the buying of livestock and often as many as 25 railroad cars of cattle and hogs would be shipped out in a week. Belle was an avid reader and never ceased to improve her understanding of the Bible and of national and international events. In the raising of her children, she instilled in them this desire to broaden her knowledge. She was a member and Past Matron of the Order of Eastern Star and a 50-year member of the Fortnightly Club and the Methodist Church.

John passed away on February 3, 1942 and Belle on February 7, 1963. Children of John W. and Belle Suman were: Merrill (Gabe) McClintock, Orval C. Walter, Mrs. Alton (Bernice) Mills, Arnold Walter, and Harland K. Walter.

### LOUIS AND LULU WALTER

Louis Noah Walter was born October 24, 1880 in Mercer Township, Adams County, Iowa to Henri and Louisa Schafroth Walter who came to this country from Switzerland when they were children.

Louie grew up on the farm, receiving education in the one-room school nearby. He never attended high school but expanded his education through observation and experience — "The School of Hard Knocks." Raising grain and feeding livestock was his mainstay, the foundation for this being laid by his father and older brothers.

In his time, he was progressive and expanded owning the first tractor and plow in the area. He purchased one of the first automobiles and in his later years had probably driven a car longer than anyone around. His mechanical ability served him well on the farm.

In 1903 he married Lulu Blanch Ely, born October 27, 1884 to Charles and Ada Ely. His parents moved to Lenox and the young couple set up housekeeping on the farm. There five children were born, Clifford Lee, 1904, Ethel Ada, 1906, and twin sons and a daughter who died in infancy.



Lulu and Louis Walter

About 1913 they moved to Lenox but Louie continued to operate the farm and some land in Taylor County. They made many trips to California, seeking medical aid for Clifford who had been injured in a fall from the haymow. They traveled by automobile on roads that changed with every rainstorm, and camped alongside the road wherever they were when night fell. They lived in California from time to time where their son, Julian Louis, was born in Long Beach, 1920.

Ethel sailed to Manila, Philippines to marry her fiancé, Bill Grant, who was employed there. They later lived in Long Beach where she passed away in 1976. Cliff returned to Lenox for several years and was bookkeeper at Copeland Wells Creamery. He married Gretchen Copeland and they later moved to California where he died in 1950.

In 1932 the great depression brought Louie and Lulu back to the farm. These were hard times, but they managed to weather the storm.

Julian married Josephine Beach in 1940 and once more the parents moved to Lenox and the newlyweds started their home on the farm. This young couple was to live there and operate the farm longer than any preceding generation, seeing it become a "Century Farm" in 1972.

During their married life of almost 65 years, Louie and Lulu had many ups and downs, joys and sorrows. During their final years, they enjoyed traveling by plane and boat to all the climates and generally reaping the harvest of a long, hardworking lifetime.

They were longtime members of the Lenox Methodist Church. Louie devoted considerable time and effort to the church, serving on boards and aiding in maintenance and construction. He was a 50-year Mason and Lulu a 50-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Lenox. Louie passed away January 3, 1968 and Lulu, June 5, that same year. Both are buried in West Fairview Cemetery. Written by Julian L. Walter, Son

### ORVAL C. WALTER

Orval C. Walter was a lifetime resident of Lenox and Taylor County, Iowa. He was the son of John W. and Belle Walter, born August 20, 1903 on a farm west of Lenox. As a young man, he grew up on the farm and spent many of his days helping drive livestock to town from surrounding farms for his father, who was a prominent buyer and shipper of livestock. He graduated from Lenox High School and attended Iowa State University.

On May 8, 1926, he was married to Dorothy I. Wynn of Lenox, daughter of Sherman and Edna (Wilson) Wynn. Born in Prescott, Iowa on October 16, 1903, she lived in Chanute, Kansas as a small girl, returning to Iowa while in the sixth grade, also graduating from the Lenox High School. She taught in the surrounding rural schools for four years.

This marriage marked the beginning of almost 50 years of married life and 45 years in business in Lenox. During these years, Orval operated a gasoline and oil business, an implement business, and managed his farm west of Lenox. In the fall of 1960, he was elected State Senator and represented Taylor and Adams County in the 1961-1963 sessions and the special session of 1964. In the 1965-1967 session, he served as assistant law clerk of the Senate.

Both were active in community affairs. They were long-time members of the Order of Eastern Star and of the First Christian Church, where Orval served as treasurer for 15 years and elder for 20 years. He served two terms on the Lenox City Council and Lenox School Board and was a member of Rotary International. He was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge, a member of the ZA-GA-ZIG Shrine of Des Moines and a 50-year member of the Iowa State Alumni Association from which he received a special community service award. Dorothy was a charter member of the Lenox H.S. Club and of the Legislative Ladies League of Iowa.

Children of Orval C. and Dorothy Walter are Richard L. Walter of Lenox and Mary Joan Hall of Spirit Lake, Iowa. After a long and full life, Dorothy passed away on January 3, 1976 and Orval on August 14, 1979.

### RICHARD L. WALTER

Mildred and I were married on August 13, 1950 at the Lenox Methodist Church. Both of us were born in Taylor County, I in Lenox and Mildred on her parents' farm 9½ miles west of Lenox. My parents were Orval C. and Dorothy (Wynn) Walter of Lenox and Mildred is the daughter of Walter F. and Ruth (Haigler) Brown, who lived near Iveyville.

Graduation from high school took place in Lenox for me and from Corning for Mildred. From there, I attended Iowa State University for four years and Mildred attended Simpson College for two years and then had employment with Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. in Des Moines for two years. At the time of our marriage, I was employed by Iowa Mutual Insurance Company of DeWitt, Iowa and Mildred transferred with Northwestern Bell to Davenport, Iowa and we settled in Moline, Illinois. Later we moved to DeWitt and it was here that our first daughter, Susan, was born.

Historical Society, 253 Bowler Drive, Des Moines, Iowa. make the change that had been considered for some time and moved back to Lenox to a farm

2 miles west of town. During the next 22 years we expanded our farming operation as well as our family — five more children. As the children grew up, Mildred decided to finish her education by getting her music degree and after five years of driving back and forth to Maryville, Missouri, she graduated in 1971. After 12 years of teaching in the Lenox and Prescott schools, she retired this year (1980) but continues to give some private lessons.

In 1975 I accepted a position with the First National Bank in Lenox as farm representative. In January, 1976, we moved into Lenox where I continue to be associated with the bank as vice president. Both of us are active in the Christian Church and are enjoying our growing family of grandchildren.

Our children are: Mrs. Gilbert Yates (Susan) of Omaha, Nebraska; Mrs. Jerold Masters (Jeanne) of Maryville, Missouri; Mrs. Tom Christensen (Janis) of Lenox; David (married to Sandi Kuipers) of Lenox; Mark (married to Connie Maynes) of Lenox; and John W. of Lenox.

### ROLAND A. WALTER

Born on an Adams County farm near Lenox, October 15, 1899. Son of Jacob J. and Minnie Brokaw Walter. Married Katherine Cox in Rock Rapids, Iowa, June 16, 1927.

Son: Roland C. Walter, D.D.S., Iowa City, Iowa.

Daughters: Janet, Mrs. Allen O. Perrier, Palm Springs, California; Joan, Mrs. Donald L. Hall, Newport Beach, California.

Six grandchildren.

Attended Lenox Public School, Simpson College, and the University of Nebraska. Member of Methodist Church; Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity; Masonic Lodge, Consistory and Shrine; American Legion; Taylor County Wildlife & Conservation Federation; State Historical Society; and life member, Nebraska Alumni Association.

Precinct Committeeman, Adams County, 16 years and delegate to Republican National Convention, 7th Congressional District 1948.

Following Army service World War I, and college, was officer and director of First National Bank in Lenox; postmaster during President Hoover's administration.

Reared family on farm in Adams County during span of 22 years as farmer-feeder.

Commissioned United States Marshal for the Southern District of Iowa, 1953, by President Eisenhower and served during his administrations. Appointed as member of the Third Judicial District Nominating Commission by Governor Robert D. Ray, 1970.

Retired and living with wife Katherine, 104 West Kansas Avenue, Lenox, Iowa.

### GEORGE DAVID WALTERS

In 1900 George and Laurretta Walters and two small children, Iva and Wesley (my father), came to Taylor County, Iowa from Nebraska. Grandma was always called Ett by her family and friends. Two years later Eva was born.

They rented various farms in the Guss community, then bought a farm in Guss. Their only mode of travel was a team of horses and a buggy.

Wesley helped his father with the farming. He also worked at the Guss store and drove a delivery truck from Guss to Clarinda, hauling cream, eggs, and poultry. He also hauled freight to and from Nodaway.

On June 6, 1923 he married Violet Gray, the girl across the road. They were married at the home of Rev. Carpenter, who lived only a half mile from Guss. Their first home was a mile and quarter from Guss, where they lived one year.

The next year they moved to Guss where Violet's parents had lived and across the road from Wesley's parents. They rented this farm and later purchased it from Tom Wright. They lived on this farm and State Legislators Collection

I (Maxine) was born here. I attended Weston school in Nodaway Township for eight years. I rode a pony the two miles, weather permitting. My dad and other fathers built a little shed at the school where we could tie our ponies during the day. When it was cold and deep snow, my father would take me to school with horses and bobsled. We picked up other kids along the way. This was fun.

Twelve years later my brother, Ronald, was born. He also attended this same school and went horseback.

I attended Villisca High School. My freshman year I rode to school with a neighbor boy and three other passengers. In 1940 the school bus started. My cousin, Don Gray, was the driver. With no gravel roads this was quite a feat.

My father farmed with horses until 1945 when he purchased his first tractor.

My parents were active members in the Maple Grove Church. Mother taught Sunday School classes and was pianist for many years.

Fourth of July celebrations were big events in Guss. The day began with a big parade in the morning and basket dinner at noon. In the afternoon there were baseball and kids' games. The highlight of the day was a home talent three-act play in the evening.

I graduated from high school and in the fall began teaching school. I had thirteen students with most of the nine grades.

In 1940 a new family, Henry Schraders, moved into the neighborhood. I married their son, Kendall, while he was in the service. Soon after we were married, he went overseas and I taught school another year.

When he returned we began farming in the Guss community. In 1949 Michael was born and three years later Janet joined our family. We farmed most of the years while the children were growing up. By Maxine (Walters) Schrader

### RONALD W. WALTERS

Ronald Wesley Walters, the son of George Wesley and Violet Mae (Gray) Walters, was born on November 22, 1937, at Villisca, Iowa. His parents and an older sister, Lola Maxine, lived on a farm in Guss, Iowa in Taylor County.

He attended the Weston country school until he went to Villisca High School where he graduated, 1957. At this time, he continued farming with his father.

On October 11, 1959, he married Connie J. Wilhelm, who had moved to Taylor County in 1949 with her parents, Mabel and Wilson Wilhelm, where they also were engaged in farming. I was born on March 21, 1941 at Clarinda, Iowa. I had an older sister, Heather, two brothers, Rex and Tom, and a sister, Judy, younger than I. I attended grade school at Frog Pond country school and graduated at Villisca High School, 1959.

Our first home was in Dallas Township where Ronald had been renting a farm. It was a friendly neighborhood. I remember the quarter mile mud road to our house. Many times we walked up that road in mud or snow drifts. It was September 17, 1960, when our first daughter, Shari Lea, was born.

In March, 1962, we moved to the farm owned by Wayne Rock in Nodaway Township. Our second daughter, Lana Kay, was born on August 23, 1963. At this time we were involved with the Guss Saddle Club and we both enjoyed riding in the local shows.

On November 27, 1964, our first son, David Ronald, was born. In February, 1964, with a lot of help from the neighbors, we moved, again, into a house we remodeled on his father's farm. It was located just west of Maple Grove Church in Guss which we attend as members and where our children have been baptized.

In July, 1968, we were saddened by the sudden death of Ronald's mother, Violet.

Rodney Lynn, our second son, was born June 4, 1970.

It was in 1970 that we purchased our first



Ronald Walters Family

our brother-in-law.

Ronald's dad had been sick this year and it was in November, 1971, when he passed away. We now had 360 acres of land.

In the spring of 1972 and 1973 we planted an "L" shaped windbreak to the northwest of our farmstead.

In 1978 we made the decision to build a new house rather than remodel the old house again. It was built closer to the windbreak. This was an experience I'll never forget. So many decisions! We're enjoying it very much, so it was well worth it.

Our daughter, Shari, was married to Galyn Mitchell on October 6, 1979. They live in the house where Ronald's folks lived. We also have a grandson, Jeramie, who is a joy to us all.

We are now renting 340 acres in addition to the 360 acres of our own. We still enjoy riding horses. Our activities in church, school, and 4-H seem to fill up the time in between our working hours. Submitted by Connie Walters

### THE WARD FAMILY

Oscar Thomas Ward (1904-1960), son of Isabelle and George Ward, was born October 22nd in Sidney, Iowa. He spent his early childhood near Sidney before coming to Lenox as a young man, first working for Harry Teatsworth in a garage. He spent his entire life as a Ford mechanic, many years at Dixon Motor of Lenox and Reuben Bros. of Corning. In the early thirties with his workmanship, he used the body and running gears from a 1926 Model T Ford but the engine and transmission from a 1928 Chevrolet to build a car for a special purpose. It had plenty of power and yet built high enough to be handled easily on mud roads. He used it to bring children from one of the rural districts into Lenox to school. Test runs on the highway startled many a driver in a stream lined car as the Model T whizzed by at 70 mph.

On October 16, 1928 he was united in marriage in Des Moines, Iowa to Matilda Rosina Stanger (1906-1958), daughter of Daniel S. and Katharina Haering Stanger. Matilda, one of six children, was born August 12th on the family farm southwest of Lenox. She attended and graduated from Grove No. 6 school. "Tillie," as she was known to all, was devoted to her family and the pride of her home and flowers. Oscar and Matilda were members of the Blue Grove Church, later transferring their membership to the Lenox Christian Church. Three children were born to this union.

Norma Charlene (1930) married to James W. Flynn of Maquoketa, Iowa in 1953. Prior to her marriage Norma worked at the H. Roy Long office in Lenox and Hy-line offices in Des Moines. To this union were born two sons, David Alan (1956) and Donald Henry (1968). The Flynns now reside in Phoenix, Arizona.

Margery Irene (1931) married to Gerald P. Carruthers of Lenox in 1950. To this union were born three children, Nancy Lynn (1952) married to Donald R. Steinick of Madrid, Iowa in 1974 and the parents of two children, Kristofor Lee and Amanda Linnea. The Steinicks reside in Ankeny, Iowa. Barbara Ann (1954) married to...