

Iowa's Notable Dead ...

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the Congregational church; was largely responsible for obtaining a \$50,000 grant from Rockefeller Foundation for constructing the theater building in 1934; is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. Thomas Stewart, Bradenton, Fla.; a brother, Roland, Milwaukee, Wis., and a sister, Mrs. Phillip Falk, Madison, Wis.

F. LAZELLE SAWYERS, banker, community and church leader, died at Centerville, Iowa, March 21, 1956; born in the same community August 20, 1895; son of Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Sawyers; enjoyed an unusual educational career, first in Centerville public schools, in 1905 and 1906, the Calvert school at Baltimore, and at age 9 accompanied his parents to Germany and attended school for two years while his father was taking special surgical training; later graduated from Lawrence high school at Lawrenceville, New Jersey, and was graduated by Princeton University in class of 1918; enlisted in French army with the Mallet reserve and attached to a general staff as an interpreter, being a linguist, speaking four languages; attached to the U. S. army and came to Centerville following the war and entered the Centerville National bank; in 1921 married Almira Baker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Baker, of Baltimore; as a grandson of former Gov. Francis M. Drake, has resided in the former Drake home; in 1945 served as president of the Iowa Bankers association; was a trustee of Drake University in Des Moines and chairman of the trustees' divinity school committee; was active in Christian Church work and a Drake benefactor; surviving are his widow, one daughter, Mrs. John B. Imboden, Baltimore, Md., and one son, Dr. John L. Sawyers Nashville, Tenn.

JOSEPH KELSO, JR., banker and legislator, died at Youngstown, New York, January 12, 1956; born at Bellevue, Iowa, September 12, 1875, son of Joseph and Sophia Shaw Kelso, of Scotch descent; attended Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and became associated with the Bank of J. Kelso, founded by his father; also associated with the Bellevue Pottery and the Bellevue Telephone company; served as a member of the House of Representatives of the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth General Assemblies in 1913 and 1915 from Jackson county; a member of the state board of conservation and the Iowa State Florists Association; in 1910 held the world's record in 20-foot speed boat competition; always an ardent outdoor man indulging in baseball, hunting, fishing, and became an expert gardener; a member of the Presbyterian church, the Masonic order, the Elks, and a Democrat; after leaving Bellevue made his home for a number of years with his sister, Mrs. W. B.

Guthrie, in New York; went to Youngstown in 1950 to make his home near a niece, Mrs. Campbell Robertson; survived by one sister, Mrs. W. B. Guthrie of Bronxville, N. Y., and other nieces, Mrs. H. J. Altfillisch, Dubuque, Mrs. J. M. Abraham, Flossmoor, Ill., Miss Mary Helen Russell, New York City, the Misses Jean and Molly Guthrie, Bronxville, N. Y. and Mrs. Ralph G. Miller, University Park, Md.

CHARLES W. WADE, merchant and legislator, died at Fairfield, Iowa, January 26, 1956; born in Mercer county, Illinois, February 23, 1872; the third son of Oliver P. and Martha Cora Wade; moved with his parents as a small boy to Maryville, Missouri, where he attended the public schools, and in 1893 was married to Margaret Karnes of Maryville; came to Fairfield in February, 1897, and purchased a small variety store, beginning his business career with a capital of \$257, which he had saved from earnings as a store clerk in Maryville; the growing business later called the Fair store, ultimately became the city's largest department store; retired from active business in 1943, after 46 years continuous operation; became active as a civic leader and belonged to many organizations, including service as vice president of the Iowa State bank; in 1944 elected state senator representing Jefferson and Van Buren counties; a member of the Presbyterian church, the Fairfield Library board, and a trustee and treasurer of Parsons college; bereaved by death of Mrs. Wade in November, 1925, and married to Mrs. Myrtle Simpson in April, 1928, who survives with two step-children, Mrs. Roy Lawson, Council Bluffs, and Roy Simpson, Fairfield, two brothers, a sister and two step-grandchildren.

CHARLES ROE, lawyer and jurist, died at his home in Council Bluffs, Iowa, March 1, 1956; born in Nevada, Iowa, in 1896; of Norwegian ancestry, son of Ole O. and Elizabeth Emmons Roe; moved with parents to Des Moines and educated in the public schools of that city; was graduated in 1908 from East high school as president of his class; attended Drake university and was graduated from the law department in 1913, again the head of the senior class; admitted to the practice of law and located at Carson, Iowa, becoming associated with the late Frank Shinn, veteran Pottawattamie county attorney, and a year later was married to Pearl Mason of Des Moines; elected a judge of the Fifteenth Iowa district court in 1938, comprising Audubon, Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Page, Mills, Pottawattamie, Montgomery and Shelby counties, serving in that capacity until his death; a member of the Methodist church, Elks lodge, Masonic order, county, district and state

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