

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Ely, John Montague, II Senator _____

Represented Linn County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 17 Feb 1919 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Shirley Ward "Polly" 20 June 1942 Worcester, Massachusetts

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Planned Parenthood; president of Oak Hill Cemetery Board; NAACP; Rotary; Inter Religion Council of Linn County

C. Profession Employed by J. & K. Oats Company as a purchasing agent until retirement in 1984

4. Church membership Unitarian

5. Sessions served 59, 60, 61, 62

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State He established the Iowa Civil Rights Commission

C. National _____

7. Death 30 Mar 2007 Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Buried Oak Hill Cemetery Cedar Rapids, Iowa

8. Children John M. III; Martha (Mrs. Joseph Gorska); Nathaniel H.; Charles Hudson and John Howard were foster children

9. Names of parents John Montague, Sr. and Laurel (Sullivan) Ely

10. Education He graduated from Franklin High School,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

11. Degrees He attended Coe College, University of Iowa and
graduated from Princeton University in 1941

12. Other applicable information

- Military service - World War II - served with the Merchant
Marine 1942-1945
- He worked for the Quaker Oats Company in Cedar Rapids,
Iowa from 1945 to 1984 when he retired.

lumbia, Tenn.; and two sisters, Sandra Brehm of Shellsburg and Sheryl Spencer of Somerville, Ala.

John M. Ely Jr., of 203 23rd St. NE, died Friday, March 30, 2007, in St. Luke's Hospital from complications following surgery. Memorial service: 4 p.m. Sunday, May 27, at Peoples Unitarian-Universalist Church, by the Rev. Marlene Walker. Inurnment: Oak Hill Cemetery in the Ely Family Mausoleum. Cedar Memorial-Grant Wood Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Shirley Ward "Polly" Ely; his children, John M. Ely III (Connie) of Anamosa,



Martha Ely Goralka (Joseph) of Antioch, Calif., and Nathaniel W. Ely of Madison, Wis.; and two foster children, Charles M. Hudson of Iowa City and John Thomas of Tucson, Ariz. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Elizabeth Ferring-Olson (Gary), John T. Ferring (Leah), Vikki Ely-Fee (Kenneth), Sarah Ely-McCollum (Gregory) and John Isaac Ely. There are 12 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Ely was of the fourth generation of one of Cedar Rapids' pioneer families. He was born Feb. 17, 1919, in Cedar Rapids, the son of John Montague Ely Sr. and Laurel Sullivan Ely. He graduated from Franklin High School, attended Coe College, the University of Iowa, and graduated from Princeton University in 1941. He married Shirley Ward on June 20, 1942, in Worcester, Mass. John served in the Merchant Marine from 1942 to 1945, and worked for the Quaker Oats Co. in Cedar Rapids as a purchasing agent until his retirement in 1984.

John interested himself in local, national and international, political and social issues. He was a lifelong civil rights

MARENGO — Karen Sue Martinson

MARION — Floyd Michael Kloster, James Ludwig

MONONA — Audrey Georgene Wickersham

PALO — Gary L. "Bud" Railsback, Letha Eileen Taylor

RIVERSIDE — Beulah (Weaver) Miller

TAMA — Mildred Marie Backen

VAN HORNE — Gary Bossler

WEST LIBERTY — Richard Alvin Wright

OBITUARIES ONLINE

Use GazetteOnline's obituaries section to e-mail an obituary to a friend or relative. You also can view a listing of today's services or search a historical database of obituaries. www.GazetteOnline.com

Emblems

■ Emblems to accentuate the deceased's involvement in various organizations are available at \$10 each. Up to three symbols may be used per obituary. Some examples are shown. Also available are emblems for other organizations and fraternal groups.



Flag



Christian



Jewish



Muslim



Christian Orthodox

(Shown actual size.)

CEDAR RAPIDS

Brian R. Lee, 40, of 1709 Eighth Ave. SE, died Tuesday evening, April 3, 2007, in his home following a sudden illness. Services: 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Papich-Kuba Funeral Home East. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday and after noon Saturday at the fu-

Dillon, both at her, Garfey Za Rapids; a broth Zach of Cedar R sister, Kathy Za Rapids.

Memorials may to the family.

Elizabeth Sherman "Bet" Cedar Rapids, (April 1, 2007, peacefully at home with her 87 years, John H. Sherman at her side. Services held on Friday, First Congregatio Crystal Lake, Ill. Visitation will be prior to the service. A luncheon will follow at the Community Center, 1000 S. Burial in Mount Hope Cemetery. Local arrangements by Cedar Memorial Home.

Those left to cherish her memory include her loving and devoted husband, Jack; sisters, Margery Hetherington of Hinsdale, Ill., and Alice Lund Springs, Colo.; brother Lawrence of Santa Fe, Calif.; six children: Garasky and husband Kirkwood, Mo., and husband Peabury, Minn., Jack of Santa Fe, Mo. Moore and husband Cedar Park, T. Sherman and wife Crystal Lake, Ill., and husband Je Crystal Lake, Ill. Children, Christie and Ingrid, Eric Johnsen, Chase net, Ben and Willie, Ryan and F and great-grandchildren, Brooke, Jan Megan.

Elizabeth "Bet" Jan. 18, 1928, in the daughter of Margaret Laurel

McCollum (Gregory) and John Isaac Ely. There are 12 great-grandchildren.

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John interested himself in local, national and international political and social issues. He was a lifelong civil rights activist. While serving in the Iowa Legislature, from 1961 to 1969, he sponsored the bill to repeal the Iowa Death Penalty (1965) and co-sponsored the Fair Housing Bill of Iowa. In addition, he was instrumental in establishing the Iowa Civil Rights Commission. He was an advocate for world peace, social justice, equality and diversity. He was co-leader of the Moratorium March of 1969. In later years, John was a citizen-lobbyist with RESULTS, appealing to Congress for micro-enterprise, free education for primary schools in developing countries, and the Global Health Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. He was formerly on the board of Planned Parenthood, Visiting Nurses Association and was president of the Oak Hill Cemetery Board, as well as being active in the United Nations Association, the Hawkeye Chapter of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union, the Iowa Railroad Passengers Association and the YMCA. He was a member of the NAACP, the Peoples Unitarian-Universalist Church, Cedar Rapids Rotary, The Carl and Mary Koehler History Center and had previously served on the board of the Inter Reli-

emblems for other organizations and fraternal groups.



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Anna Marie Drievold, 66, of 69 20th Ave. SW, died Tuesday, April 3, 2007, in Mercy Medical Center following a sudden illness. Services: 1 p.m. Saturday, Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Cedar Rapids, by the Rev. Gary Sneller. The family will greet friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Survivors include her children, Dixie Baker of Cedar Rapids, Rodney Williamson (Patti Mrstik) of Cedar Rapids and Karla (Royden) Morford of Cedar Rapids; grandchildren, Dawn (Kyle) Houlsworth of Marion, Justin Baker, Maxwell Morford and Kadya Morford, all of Cedar Rapids; great-grandchild, Keigen Houlsworth of Marion; a brother, Robert (Diane) Drievold of Cedar Rapids; sisters, Helen (Henry) Ricklefs and Sharon (Mark) Brown of Ogden, Utah; a sister-in-law, Betty Drievold; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Also sur-



Springs, Colo.; Lawrence of S. Calif.; six children: Garasky and husband Kirkwood, Mo., and husband P. bury, Minn.; Jack of Santa Fe, Moore and husband Cedar Park, Sherman and wife tal Lake, Ill., and husband J. Crystal Lake, I. dren, Christie an ky, Ingrid, Eri Johnsen, Chasek net, Ben and Wigie, Ryan and and great-grandchildren, Brooke, J. Megan.

Elizabeth "Be" Jan. 18, 1928, in the daughter of Margaret Lawrence her husband Jack ing Northwestern Evanston, Ill., in fellowship and group at First I in Evanston. They married at Methodist Church in Cl 10, 1949. She graduated Johns Hopkins U a Bachelor of Science nursing and womanly welfare nurse at the Taylor Hospital graduation. In they raised their Betsey was an of PEO and DAI member of First al Church for n 1989, the Sherman to Cedar Rapids. Jack began work Corporation (Inte ogies Corporation remained in Cedar joying the kind hospitality of t Midwestern town Friends may donate to a choice in Betsey Please leave a ute or memory to family on the www.cedarnews.com obituaries.

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Please leave a message, tribute or memorial to the family on the Web page www.cedar-memorial.com under obituaries.

Memorials may be made to: Peoples Unitarian-Universalist Church, 600 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401; RESULTS, 440 First St. NW, Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20001 www.results.org; UNA, local chapter, c/o Fred and Ruth Balster, 344 Forest Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-2808 (e-mail: Balster123@msn.com); Iowa Medical Aid Fund, P.O. Box 721, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0721.

Memorials may also be made to the charity of your choice.

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She was preceded in death by her parents, Bennie and Agnes Drievold; and a brother, Richard Drievold.

Anna was born Sept. 19, 1940, in Decorah, Iowa, the daughter of Bennie and Agnes (Balk) Drievold. She was a hard worker and a loving mother and grandmother.

She liked to crochet, was an avid watcher of reality TV and WWE and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She always looked forward to their visits.

Anna was a tissue donor.

A memorial fund has been established in Anna's memory.

Please sign the online guest book for Anna at www.murdochfuneralhome.com



ing Northwest Evanston, Ill., fellowship an group at First in Evanston. married at Methodist Church in 10, 1949. She Johns Hopkins a Bachelor of S nursing and w fant welfare n at the Taylor graduation. In tled in Cryst they raised the Betsey was an of PEO and D. member of Fir al Church for 1989, the Sher to Cedar Rap Jack began w Corporation (l ogies Corporat remained in C joying the kin hospitality of Midwestern to

Friends ma donate to a choice in Bet Please leave ute or memory family on www.cedarmemorial.com under obituaries

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Beulah (W

93, of 5722 Lar side, died Wed 2007, in her lengthy illness. Life service: 9 at the family Miller will offer Miller Cer lona. Visitation 4 p.m. today every day at the Arrangements seim Funer Kalona.

Survivors i ter, Dora Miller son, Stanley and a brother, of Brookfield,

Condolences www.petersej.com

LEGACY

Death penalty foe Ely dies

Former state legislator's ancestor was among earliest settlers in C.R.

By James Q. Lynch and Adam Belz
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — Former state legislator and longtime death penalty opponent John M. Ely Jr., 88, died Friday at St. Luke's Hospital of complications after surgery.

Ely, a descendant of one of Cedar Rapids' founding families, had interests that ran from international to the neighborhood. He was one of the foremost proponents of changing the Cedar Rapids' commission form of govern-



John M. Ely Jr.
Died Friday

ment, long before the idea gained traction. And in 1995, he pledged \$100 toward stopping the Cedar Rapids Police Department from selling guns collected in a handgun swap when he thought it might allow the guns to be resold.

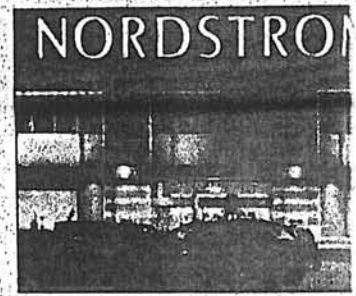
"It was an honor to represent John," Mayor Kay Halloran said last night. Ely lived in her district when she was a state legislator.

He was a passionate politician, Halloran said.

"Who else would go to Fort Madison to witness a hanging before he felt qualified to vote on the death penalty?" she said. "It was as if then he could say, 'I've seen it. I

► ELY, PAGE 15A

Then-state Rep. John M. Ely Jr. stands outside the Fort Madison penitentiary after witnessing a hanging in 1963 — the last execution carried out by the state. Ely, whose account of the execution helped bring about the repeal of Iowa's death penalty, died Friday in Cedar Rapids at 88.



Nordstrom has no plans for ment store in the Cedar Rap



Beth Brubaker (left) of Elburn, Ill., town Galena, Ill. Brubaker travels t leaders in the Corridor would like I

Iowa cities see

By Carly Weber
The Gazette

Nancy Williamson is "craz about" Crate & Barrel an tery Barn.

These highly des m d s w a n ' t found within a 100-mile radius (Cedar Rapids

o choose

the system is unfair because she's getting the same benefits that other dues-paying teachers receive.

"I'm not freeloading off of them because they chose to represent everyone," Hinshaw said. "They may go in and negotiate salaries, but really, I'm only getting what the state allows."

Hawkins said these same opinions echo throughout the state, but many teachers are declining to voice them.

"Frankly, they don't want to be intimidated," Hawkins said. "We just totally believe in freedom of association."

Contact the writer: (515) 243-7220 or bryant_tapper@msn.com

Ely/Generosity, selflessness cited

► FROM PAGE 1A

know it. I can speak against it."

It was his work to repeal the death penalty in 1965 that people recalled about Ely, who served in the Iowa Legislature from 1961 to 1969.

"I always admired him, perhaps most importantly, because he is the primary reason we don't have the death penalty in Iowa," 2nd District Rep. Dave Loeb sack said.

As a state legislator, Ely witnessed the last execution carried out by the state when it hanged Victor Harry Fe guer in 1963. It took until 1965 to repeal Iowa's death penalty statute, thanks, in part, to Ely's first-person account.

Thirty years after helping repeal the death penalty, Ely helped keep it off the books in Iowa, former State Rep. Ed Fallon said.

"He became one of my mentors" in the mid-1990s when the Legislature again debated the penalty, Fallon, a Des Moines Democrat, recalled.

The death penalty wasn't the only volatile issue Ely tackled as a legislator. In 1969, four years before the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, Ely introduced a bill to make abortion, with restrictions, legal in Iowa.

Halloran called him a financial angel to the Iowa Civil Liberties Union and the Democratic Party.

"Every time the civil liberties needed money, he gave them a few more shares of AT&T," she said. "He was a super example of the way things were supposed to be done."

Loeb sack met Ely through mutual interests, including the United Nations Association and campaigns.

"He was a phenomenal individual. He worked tirelessly on campaigns for social justice and to improve our relations with the rest of the world," Loeb sack said. "He was a political powerhouse and was going to make a difference as an institution."

Ely grew up in Cedar Ran-

Shopping/Peo

► FROM PAGE 1A

its Cedar Rapids fulfillment center; shoppers won't be seeing a store here any time soon.

"We certainly wouldn't rule out an area like Cedar Rapids," she said, "but currently we don't have any plans."

Each retailer has its own magic equation that determines where it will expand, said Deanna Trumbull, former general manager of Coral Ridge Mall in Coralville and a retail consultant for the city of Coralville.



Deanna Trumbull
Retail consultant

"It comes down to Marketing 101 in terms of . . .

understanding the market, what is the average income level, household size, lifestyle characteristics," she said. There also needs to be "a simultaneous need from the retail side and interest from a developer side."

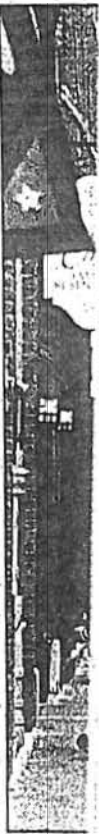
Communities like those in the Corridor are considered secondary or tertiary markets by many upscale retailers. The trick then becomes convincing retailers that the Corridor fits their needs.

"There is a real need to educate retailers of the dynamics of the Iowa shopper," Trumbull said. "For a very long time, there has been an idea that every Iowa shopper wears OshKosh overalls and shops at Wal-Mart."

Retailers who want a minimum population of 500,000 before they'll consider a market don't realize that "in Iowa, we will drive 40 minutes to great shopping," Trumbull said.

"They think that if it is more than a 10-minute drive, it's a new market," she said. In Iowa, "it's not about having a half-million people in 10 miles. You can have a half-million in 50 or 60 miles and still have the market."

When Coral Ridge Mall opened in 1999,



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

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plying with State and Federal telecom
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fer. Other conditions and restrictions apply.
age area. Up to \$36 activation fee applies.
een two individuals. **Offnet Usage:** If your
your offnet usage allowance, Cingular may
charges for offnet usage. Your offnet usage
Messaging: Includes unlimited text, picture,
her usage not expressly included herein will
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gtones are offered by independent providers.
Rebate Debit Card: Prices of Samsung and
ice of Motorola RAZR 3G before mail-in rebate
s are \$119.99 and \$69.99, respectively. Allow



as an institution."
Ely grew up in Cedar Rapids and went to local public schools. He went to old Washington High School and graduated from Franklin High. He spent a semester at Coe and some time at the University of Iowa but graduated from Princeton University in 1941. He and his wife, Polly, met in 1939, on a blind date. They were married in 1942 in Worcester, Mass. They have two sons and a daughter.

Several people mentioned Ely's selfless principles, including his vote for a legislative redistricting plan that essentially left him without a district.

"He was a giant," said Cedar Rapids attorney Bob Rush, who worked with Ely on civil liberties issues. "The mark John left was dedicating a life to standing up for what he believed.

"You wish there were 100 more just like him," Rush said, "but he was unique."

"He was the best example of how to be a good citizen," said Connie Birmingham of Marion. Describing herself as Ely's "political godchild," she said he had a profound impact on her thinking about capital punishment.

"He made a difference," she said. "He and Polly made a difference together. One was a reflection of the other."

Libby Slappey, who met Ely after she moved to Cedar Rapids from Washington, where she worked for then-Sen. Dick Clark, remembered his zeal.

"I had no idea people of John's age could be as passionate about the issues as the young Turks," she said.

Ely's great-grandfather, Dr. John F. Ely, was an early settler in Cedar Rapids. He was a director of the first railroad to reach Cedar Rapids from Clinton in 1859, the Chicago Iowa and Nebraska.

He also helped organize the Burlington Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railroad in 1868 to continue work on a north-south route.

Ely told The Gazette in 2004 that he remembered hearing his grandfather talk about how towns were named for railroad figures, including his

When Coral Ridge mall opened in 1998, "there were a lot of people that were very skeptical about whether (it) could be a success or not because it was in a small community," said Coralville City Manager Kelly Hayworth.



Kelly Hayworth
Coralville administrator

Today, the mall is at the center of a retail development surge in Coralville and lures shoppers from as far as 150 miles away.

Coral Ridge's proximity to Westdale Mall, 30 miles up the road in Cedar Rapids, has been blamed for the latter's failure. Cedar Rapids' other mall, Lindale, in the northeast quadrant, is holding its own.

Marketing the region might



Joe Scham
Visitors

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Contact the writer: (319) 398-8375 or
lunch@gazettecommunications.com