

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Messers, Frank J. Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Johnson County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 19 Sept 1888 Bloomfield, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place \_\_\_\_\_

Did not marry

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Member of County, State and American Bar Associations.  
He was co-author of "Iowa Methods of Practice" published in 1954.

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Shiner; Elks; Moose  
Iowa City Chapter of America

C. Profession Attorney (for more than 50 years)

4. Church membership \_\_\_\_\_

5. Sessions served 38<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1919

6. Public Offices

A. Local City solicitor; corporation council

B. State Democratic candidate for Iowa State Supreme Court several  
times, but was defeated each time

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

7. Death 4 Jan 1965 Iowa City, Iowa; buried Oakland Cemetery, Iowa City, Iowa

8. Children No children

9. Names of parents George and Mary A. (Mulsatt) Messers

10. Education Graduate of high school in Bloomfield Iowa

11. Degrees Graduate of Southern Normal College, Bloomfield, Iowa;  
University of Iowa law degree 1910

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- At his death, he was the senior member of the Iowa City law firm of Messer and Cahill
- He began practicing law in Iowa City in 1910 as a member of Rank and Messer.
- He was well known as a trial lawyer.
- He was a lecturer on trial practice at the law schools of the University of Kansas City and Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana
- He raised and exhibited pedigree as the horses and dogs.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary -			The Iowa City Press Citizen, Iowa City, Iowa, Iowa Jan. 5, 1965, p.1, col. 6 & 7
- Iowa Official Register			1919-1920 p. 318
- Iowa Press Association of Missions Iowa 1940,			p. 654
- Familysearch.org			(accessed 18 Aug 2011)
- ancestry.com			(accessed 18 Aug 2011)
- Portrait -			The original photo is located in the archives of the State of Iowa Historical Society, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines, Iowa



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# Share y Rift

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However, Stewart said "the  
law does not require that the  
city accept the highest bid,  
though it must accept a bid  
which reflects a fair market  
price"

"So it would seem to me,"  
Stewart continued, "that as  
long as the current landlord  
would offer a fair market price  
for his old site after it had been  
cleared and improvements  
made, that the city could sell  
to him without question"

Roy Ewers, owner of Ewers  
Men's shop, said "There is no  
other site in Iowa City where I  
could consider locating" So if  
there is no guarantee it will  
be hard to support this pro-  
gram"

Stewart explained that the  
current owner "would be given  
the maximum opportunity to  
buy back his current site"

ANOTHER CBD landlord,  
Frank C. Byers, asked Stewart  
if it would be correct to say  
that the national pattern shows  
that only about half the land-  
owners get their sites back  
under urban renewal.

"This is true," Stewart said,  
"but Iowa City's renewal pro-  
gram is unique and there is no  
reason to think the percentage  
need be that low here"

"There will be hardships for  
some. I would be the first to  
admit that," Stewart said, "but  
they can be minimized with  
proper planning"

IN ANSWERING a question  
as to how many of the down-  
town buildings would be re-  
moved, Stewart said there  
would be "no wholesale clear-  
ance"

"We're not looking at the  
downtown and saying every-  
thing is bad. This must be a  
realistic program"

"The important thing," Stew-  
art said, "is the realization that  
something must be done. Sales  
are top now, but this doesn't  
insure the future."

"A large shopping center  
could be a serious or almost  
fatal blow to many of the  
small businesses," Stewart ad-  
ded.

In outlining the steps which  
must be taken to initiate and  
carry out the planning stages  
of the program, Stewart point-  
ed out that several studies—en-  
gineering, appraisal, market-  
ability and others—would have  
to be made before "we can dis-  
cuss any exact redevelopment  
program."

off South Viet Nam.  
"The Vigilantes' photo gear is  
capable of detailed snooping  
from just above the tree tops to  
above 40,000 feet.

CMDR. PAUL F. Werner, 40,  
skipper of the special recon-  
naissance detachment, and his  
crews are accompanied by jet-  
fighter escorts when they fly

a war on the Plaine des Jarres,  
or in Viet Nam for that matter.  
The Plaine and the countryside  
in Laos and Viet Nam look so  
peaceful from the air"

Since the loss of several U.S.  
aircraft in the Plaine des Jarres  
region, the reconnaissance jets  
fly above the effective range of  
ground fire from small weap-  
ons

# Frank Messer, Lawyer, Dies

Frank F. Messer, 76, an attorney here for more than  
50 years, died Monday night at Mercy hospital after a  
short illness. His home here was at 624 North Linn  
street.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the  
Oathout funeral chapel and burial will be in Oakland  
cemetery.

Mr. Messer was senior mem-  
ber of the Iowa City law firm  
of Messer and Cahill at the  
time of his death. He had be-  
gun practicing here in 1910 as  
a member of the firm of Ranck  
and Messer.

He was city solicitor and cor-  
poration counsel from 1911 to  
1915. A Democrat, he represen-  
ted the county in the legislature  
from 1919 to 1921.

MR. MESSER also was a  
Democratic candidate for the  
state supreme court several  
times, coming closest to elec-  
tion in 1958 when first counts  
showed him a victor. The offi-  
cial canvass, however, counted  
him out and his election contest  
was dismissed by the courts.

Best known for his work as a  
trial lawyer, Mr. Messer was a  
co-author of "Iowa Methods of

Practice," published in 1954. He  
also lectured on trial practice  
at the law schools of the Uni-  
versity of Kansas City and Val-  
paraiso university.

Born September 19, 1888, at  
Bloomfield, Mr. Messer was  
graduated from high school and  
the old Southern Normal col-  
lege there. He received his law  
degree from the University of  
Iowa in 1910.

He was a member of Phi Al-  
pha Delta fraternity, the coun-  
ty, state and American Bar as-  
sociations, the Masons, Shrine,  
Elks and Moose.

Survivors include two nieces.



FRANK F. MESSER

## U.S. Asks \$400,000 U.A.R. Compensation

WASHINGTON (AP) — The  
United States is asking the  
United Arab Republic for about  
\$400,000 to compensate for the  
burning of the John F. Kennedy  
Library in Cairo by demonst-  
rators November 26, State Dept.  
Press Officer Robert J. Mc-  
Clokey said Monday.

Leppala-Moilanen-Conrad Family Tree

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find a person in this tree

Owner: WENDY\_CONRAD2



Frank F. Messer

Birth **19 September 1888** in [Bloomfield, Davis, Iowa, USA](#)  
 Death **January 1965** in [Iowa, USA](#)

[Save this person to your tree](#)  
[Comment on this](#)

[View his family tree](#) [View family members](#) [More options](#)

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Story Frank Messer

[Photos \(1\)](#)  
[Stories \(1\)](#)  
[Audio \(0\)](#)  
[Video \(0\)](#)

Timeline [\(View details\)](#)

1888 19 Sep	<a href="#">Birth</a> Bloomfield, Davis, Iowa, USA	<a href="#">7 source citations</a>
1895 Age: 7	<a href="#">Residence</a> Bloomfield, Davis, Iowa, USA	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1900 Age: 12	<a href="#">Residence</a> Soldier, Jackson, Kansas, USA	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1910 Age: 22	<a href="#">Residence</a> Iowa Ward 2, Johnson, Iowa, USA	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1917 Age: 29	<a href="#">Residence</a> Johnson, Iowa, USA	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1920 Age: 32	<a href="#">Residence</a> Iowa City Ward 2, Johnson, Iowa, USA	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1965 Jan Age: 76	<a href="#">Death</a> Iowa, USA	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>

Comments

No comments have been added yet.

[Add a comment](#)

Family Members

Parents

- [George Messer](#)  
1853 -
- [Mary A. Mutschler](#)  
1860 -

[Show siblings](#)

Spouse & Children

No Spouse or Children

[Family group sheet](#)

Source Information [view details](#)

- 1900 United States Federal Census  
 1 citation provides evidence for **Residence, Birth, Name**
- 1910 United States Federal Census  
 1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Birth, Residence**
- 1920 United States Federal Census  
 2 citations provide evidence for **Birth, Name, Residence**
- Iowa State Census, 1895  
 1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Birth, Residence**
- Social Security Death Index  
 1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Birth, Death**
- World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918  
 1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Birth, Residence**

Web Links

There are no weblinks available for this person.

Search the web for **Frank F. Messer**

## Some Biographical Details

From The American Bar, Volume 1958, p. 202:

Kavner, Messer, Clearman & Olsen: Frank F. Messer, b. Bloomfield, Ia., Sept. 19, 1888; a. to bar 1909, Ia.; grad. Southern Normal, Ia., B.S. 1907; legal ed. Univ. of Iowa, L.L.B., 1910. City Solicitor, Corporation Counsel, 1911-1915. Mem. Phi Alpha Delta fraternity; Johnson Co. Bar Ass'n; general practice.

From the Iowa Official Register, Vol. 3: Elected State Representative 1918, Democrat, District 41 (Johnson County).

WENDY\_CONRAD2 added this on 14 Jun 2010

### Attached to in this tree



Frank F. Messer  
1888 - 1965

### Other trees this object is saved to

Garner - Waugh - Sears - Richmiller - Messer - Multchler  
by lht22 on 14 Jun 2010

# Individual Record

FamilySearch™ U.S. Social Security Death Index

[Search Results](#)

Select record to download - Maximum: 50

 **Frank MESSER**

<b>Birth Date:</b>	19 Sep 1888
<b>Death Date:</b>	Jan 1965
<b>Social Security Number:</b>	481-48-0571
<b>State or Territory Where Number Was Issued:</b>	Iowa
<b>Actual Death Residence:</b>	Iowa

[Return to search results](#)[Prepare selected records for download](#)

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