

LEANDER "LEE" WARREN HOLT

Leander Warren Holt, was born August 30, 1909, to Peter and Anna Edward Holt in Earlville, Ill. Lee passed away Wednesday, October 29, 1997, at St. Luke Lutheran Home, Spencer, Iowa at the age of eighty-eight years. His early childhood was spent on a farm near Ottosen, Iowa. Lee graduated from Ottosen High School and later from the American Institute of Business in Des Moines. In 1935, he was employed by the Iowa House of Representatives in the 46th General Assembly.

On June 27, 1937, he married Dorothy VanBurskirk in Ottosen. One son, John and two daughters, Sondra and Barbara comprised their family. They were also blessed with eight grandchildren. Lee was a member of the First English Lutheran Church where he served as an officer for 30 years. He also served six years on the board of the Lutheran Home Finding Society in Fort Dodge, Iowa. In 1950, he was appointed as a director for the Iowa Safety Congress.

He was President and chairman of the Board of Directors of St. Luke Lutheran Home from 1963-1993. During that period, The Highlands was studied and built with Lee and Dorothy as the first residents of the facility. Lee served as an honorary board member in the early planning stages for the Assisted Living, Adult Day Care Center now named in his honor. He was president of the Iowa Automobile Dealers in 1968. In 1977 and 1978, he served as chairman of the Board of Fellows of Augustana College in Sioux Falls. In 1978, he received the Northwood Institute award for support of education. He served on an advisory council for Iowa Lakes Community College and also on the state Board of Vocational Education Advisory Council. He served on the Legislative Council for AARP for the state of Iowa. He was a member of the Steering Committee in fundraising for the Spencer Cancer Unit. In 1995, Governor Branstad appointed him to the State Judicial Nominating Commission.

Lee served for a number of years as State Drivers License Examiner and as a member of the Iowa Highway State Patrol. In 1946, he resigned from the Patrol and became associated in the automobile business. In 1964, he purchased the automobile dealership which bore his name, Lee Holt Motors. Time Magazine named him Quality Auto Dealer for Iowa in 1972.

In 1978, Lee was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives and served in the 68th and 69th General Assemblies representing Clay and Palo Alto County. In 1983, he was elected to the Iowa Senate and served in the 70th, 71st, and 72nd General Assemblies. After serving six years in the Senate, he retired from the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IOWA: That in the passing of the Honorable Leander Warren Holt, the State has lost an honored citizen known to all who dealt with him as a "True Gentleman" and a faithful and useful public servant, and that the Senate by this Resolution, expresses its appreciation of his service to the State and tenders its sympathy and kindest regards to the members of his family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the Senate and that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

JOHN P. KIBBIE, Chair
WILMER RENSINK
MARY LOU FREEMAN

Committee

EMIL J. HUSAK

Emil J. Husak was born to William and Mary Husak on September 18, 1930, in Toledo, Iowa. He had six brothers and two sisters. He passed away on July 30, 1997, at the age of sixty-six.

Emil was a member of the Toledo American Legion Post #72, 40-8, K.D. Lodge, Eagles, Kiwanis, Farm Bureau, Farmers' Union and the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Tama, Iowa. He served in the Army during the Korean Conflict from 1952 until 1954.

In 1955, Emil married Dorothy Uhlenberg, and together they started a grain and livestock farm approximately one-half mile from where he grew up. He also drove a school bus for the South Tama County Community School District for twelve years.

Emil and Dorothy became the parents of three sons and two daughters: Michael of Marshalltown, Iowa; Dennis of St. Charles, Missouri; Joseph, deceased; Janice Morales of Lake Zurich, Illinois, and Laurie Friedhoff of Urbandale, Iowa. Their family grew with the addition of ten grandchildren.

Senator Husak's political career began in 1970, when he was elected to five two-year terms in the Iowa House, serving in the 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 67thEX, and 68th General Assemblies. He was then elected to serve four terms in the Iowa Senate and served in the 69th, 69thEX, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, and 76th General Assemblies until 1996.

During his 26 years as a legislator, his priorities included preservation of the family farm, needs of the elderly, education, veterans' affairs, the environment and economic development. Senator Husak devoted considerable effort toward preserving the integrity of the State Juvenile Home, the Iowa Veterans' Home and the Iowa Braille School. He worked enthusiastically for the Special Olympics, lowering taxes and always listened to the ideas of those in his District. Senator Husak also encouraged each of his children and grandchildren to visit him at the State Capitol during the sessions to view the process at work.

Emil's top priorities were his wife, children, grandchildren, and the family farm. Emil continued to farm, and, also, became involved in wood crafting. Emil's hobbies included hunting, fishing, golfing and family gatherings.