

W.R. RABEDEAUX

Senator W.R. "Bill" Rabedeaux, the son of Orren and Mecia Rabedeaux, was born on August 6, 1919, in Muscatine, Iowa. He passed away on June 3, 1996, at the age of 76 years. He married Beverly Oveson in June of 1950. They became the parents of three sons, Neal Rabedeaux of Clive, Iowa, Bruce Rabedeaux of Wilton, Iowa, Brian Rabedeaux of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a daughter, Renee Rabedeaux of Clive, Iowa. He was grandfather to nine grandchildren.

Senator Rabedeaux was owner, editor and publisher of the Advocate News in Wilton for 20 years. He was member services director for Rural Electric Co-op of Wilton from 1947 until 1980. He was a member of Wilton Town Council, Wilton School Board, Wilton Chamber of Commerce, Muscatine County Republican Central Committee, Wilton Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge, American Legion, Lions Club, and V.F.W., having served four years in the Air Force during W.W. II.

Senator Rabedeaux began his political career in 1970 when he was elected in a special election to the Iowa Senate where he served in the sixty-third, sixty-fourth, sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth General Assemblies from 1970 until 1976.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IOWA: That in the passing of the Honorable W.R. Rabedeaux, the State has lost an honored citizen and a faithful and useful public servant, and that the State 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.

RICHARD F. DRAKE, Chair
 JACK RIFE
 PATRICK J. DELUHERY

Committee

BASS VAN GILST

Senator Bass Van Gilst was born April 14, 1911, in Marion County north of Pella, Iowa. He passed away at his home in Oskaloosa on December 2, 1996, at the age of 85 years. His parents were Peter and Nellie Van Gilst. He married Harriet DeBruin on November 26, 1937. They became the parents of three sons, Kenneth Van Gilst of Oskaloosa, Iowa, Carl Van Gilst of Goshen, Indiana, and Mark Van Gilst of Newark, Delaware; three daughters, Elaine Van Wyk of Pella, Iowa, Diane Van Wyngarden of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and Joleen Vanderheide of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. He was grandfather to twenty-four grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren.

Senator Van Gilst farmed in Southeast Mahaska County. He served on the Iowa Board of Regents. He was a member of Cedar Christian Reformed Church, Oskaloosa