

money and banking. He received a commission in the Army Engineers and was accepted for training as an Army Air Corps cadet. In 1932, Ernest left the Army Air Corps and worked as an investment banker starting his own investment banking business, which he successfully ran for forty years. He served on the Board of Governors of the National Association of Securities Dealers. Ernest served in the Navy during World War II as a Lt. Senior Grade. He was stationed in New York City, where he helped set up some of the first discharge centers.

Ernest Kosek was a Linn County Republican, and in 1946 he was elected to the House of Representatives and served twelve years during the 52nd through the 57th General Assemblies until 1958. In 1966, he was elected to the Senate and served for four years during the 62nd and 63rd General Assemblies until 1970. While in the Legislature, he championed many mental health bills helping those affected by mental illness. He also served on the executive committee of the National Association of Mental Health.

Senator Kosek was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, the El Kahir Shrine, the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the American Legion, and he was a 32nd degree Mason. He was a member of the Cedar Rapids Country Club, the Sokol, the Iowa Republican Party, the Czech Heritage Society, the Czech Village Association, and Western Fraternal. Senator Kosek and United States Senator Hruska started the first English-speaking lodges in the Western Fraternal.

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

MARY A. LUNDBY, Chair
WALLY E. HORN
ANDY MCKEAN

Committee

HAROLD A. THORSDEN

Harold A. Thorsden was born on September 25, 1907, in Davenport, Iowa, to Jess and Hazel Thorsden. He passed away on November 8, 1999, in Davenport, Iowa, at the age of ninety-two. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; sons and daughters-in-law, the Reverend Jerry and Vicki Thorsden of Bondurant, Iowa, Jim and Marsha McKinney of Eldridge, Iowa, and Lt. Col. Joseph and Ann Arnold of Price George, Virginia; a daughter, Pat Simms of Madison, Wisconsin; daughters and sons-in-law, Nadine and Charles Palmer of Peoria, Illinois, and Nancy and Ronald Pike of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.; 24 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren; sisters Marsha Bogue of Tucson, Arizona, and Honey Weber of Davenport; plus several nieces and nephews.

Harold Thordsen joined the Davenport Police Department in the 1930s and worked there for more than eighteen years. He was the first Davenport police officer to attend the FBI's National Police Academy in Washington, D.C. When he graduated in 1942, he personally received his diploma from J. Edgar Hoover. Mr. Thordsen was chief of detectives for the Davenport Police Department.

During World War II, he served in the United States Navy.

Harold Thordsen was a Scott County Republican and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1966. He served there during the 62nd General Assembly. He was elected to the Senate in 1968 and served during the 63rd and 64th General Assemblies until 1972. As a state legislator in the early 1970s, he was chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee and was largely responsible for the creation of Iowa's first Law Enforcement Academy in Des Moines. He also played a key role in introducing a bill in the Iowa Legislature to legalize bingo.

After serving in the Legislature, Senator Thordsen and his wife owned and operated a Wisconsin Dells resort for four years. He also worked as a real estate broker in Davenport and played pro football with the Moline Indians for four seasons. He founded and was past president of the Davenport Alumni Diamond Ball Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY - EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IOWA: That in the passing of the Honorable Harold A. Thordsen, the State has lost an honored citizen 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.

MAGGIE TINSMAN, Chair
RICHARD F. DRAKE
JACK RIFE

Committee