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Memorials



NORBERT B. AUER Grand Forks, North Dakota

Norbert B. Auer, 52, 824 S. 25th St., died Tuesday, May 30, 1978, at the United Hospital in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Services were held Friday, June 2, 1978, at Grand Forks, North Dakota. Burial was at Calvary Cemetary. Military honors were conducted by the American Legion Post 6.

Mr. Auer was born September 17, 1925, at Park Rapids, Minnesota. He later moved to Hillsboro, North Dakota, and attended school. In 1943 he was graduated from the Hillsboro High School, and during World War II he served in the U. S. Army. He was discharged at the rank of captain and served in the North Dakota National Guard in Korea.

In 1953 Mr. Auer was graduated from the University of North Dakota Law School. He worked as an attorney for the Grand Forks Abstract Co., and later for the North Dakota Highway Department at Bismarck and Minot, N. D. He returned to Grand Forks in April, 1978.

Survivors include one son, Michael, serving in the U. S. Navy at Charleston, S. C.; two daughters, Lindsay, Tallahassee, Fla., and Mary Beachem, Grand Forks; his mother, Mrs. Grace Auer, Grand Forks; two sisters, Mrs. Forrest (Virginia) Johnson, Fargo, and Mrs. Judy Kientz, Bloomfield, Colo.; and one grandson.

Mr. Auer was the charter president of the UND Sioux Boosters Club and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. He was a past board member of the First Federal Savings and Loan, past

president of the Grand Forks Exchange Club and Country Club and past commander of the American Legion Post 6. He also had headed the United Fund drive in Grand Forks several years ago.

CLYDE DUFFY
Devils Lake, North Dakota

Clyde Duffy, prominent North Dakota politician and former Devils Lake resident, died December 17, 1977, in Santa Clara, California, at the age of 87.

Funeral services were conducted December 21, 1977, at 10:30 A.M., in St. Joseph's Church in Devils Lake, with burial in the Devils Lake Cemetery.

Duffy, who was elected Lieutenant Governor from 1956 through 1958, served in the North Dakota Senate from 1949 to 1956 from this district. He was majority floor leader while serving in the senate. At that time there were two factions to the Republican party of North Dakota - the Republican Organizing Committee, to which Duffy belonged, and the Nonpartisan League.

Duffy, who was Devils Lake City Attorney for many years, served as chairman of the subcommittee that drafted oil conservation legislation in the state and was a member of the commission which drafted the Missouri Souris Conservancy District Laws in 1949.

In 1958, he ran unsuccessfully against William Langer for the U. S. Senate.

From 1939 to 1943, he was a member of the Code Revision Commission which was responsible for revising the North Dakota Code.

Duffy started law practice with Torger Sinness in 1913 in Minnewaukan until 1925 when the firm was moved to Devils Lake. Following Sinness's retirement in 1950, John Haugland joined the practice which then became known as Duffy and Haugland, until 1970 when Duffy retired.

Born near Starkweather, Duffy was educated in Ramsey County schools and worked his way through law school as a newspaper reporter with the Grand Forks Herald, where he gained the title of city editor.

Active in many community groups, he was on the board of directors of both Otter Tail and Northern Founders Insurance, as

well as being active in Knights of Columbus and the local Elks Lodge.

Duffy was a member of the American Bar Association and served as president of the North Dakota Bar Association.

In other political activities, he was chairman of the Republican Committee of Ramsey County, a member of the Republican Central Committee and a delegate to the National Republican Convention in 1936.

He served on various committees involving investigations of the State Hospital in Jamestown and investigated insurance companies under a special assignment of the Attorney General.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Donald (Margaret) Eggleston, New York, New York; and Mrs. Edward (Patricia) Callinan of Edina, Minnesota. Five grandchildren also survive. He was preceded in death by his wife, Exzelia, who died in May of 1964.

JOHN K. ECKES

Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

Services for John Kenneth Eckes, 67, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, who died August 31, 1977, at a Fargo hospital, were held September 3, 1977, at Holy Rosary Church, Detroit Lakes.

Mr. Eckes was born November 9, 1909, in Breckenridge, Minnesota. He grew up and attended school in Wahpeton and attended the North Dakota State School of Science there and Dickinson State College. He graduated from the University of North Dakota Law School in 1933.

Mr. Eckes married Martha Worth at Larimore, July 17, 1939. He purchased a law practice in Killdeer in 1934 and lived in that area until retirement.

He leaves his widow; two daughters; three sisters; one brother, W. L. Eckes, Beach; and six grandchildren.

Donehower Funeral Home, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, were in charge of arrangements.

JOHN C. HOMME

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Services for John C. Homme, 49, Dacotah Motor Hotel, were held November 22, 1977, at Adams Funeral Home. Burial was at

Grafton, North Dakota. Mr. Homme died unexpectedly November 17, 1977, at his residence.

Survivors were three brothers, H. Gordon, Arlington, Va., and Orrin R. and Fergus A., Rancho Mirage, California.

Mr. Homme was a graduate of the University of North Dakota Law School and an attorney in Grand Forks. He worked for the U. S. Department of Agriculture until his retirement due to ill health. He was a veteran of World War II.

Mr. Homme was a member of the North Dakota and Grand Forks County bar associations, Kem Temple of the Shrine, St. Omer Commandry, the Grand Forks VFW and the Grafton American Legion.

JAMES E. LEO

Grand Forks, North Dakota

James E. Leo, 61, 600 S. Third St., and past president of the Grand Forks County Bar Association, died Thursday, August 11, 1977, at a local hospital.

Mr. Leo was born June 4, 1916, at Grand Forks and attended school here. He was graduated from Central High School and the University of North Dakota Law School. During World War II he served in the U. S. Army Intelligence Corps. In May, 1942, he married Bernice Bratland in Boston, Mass.

After the war, Mr. Leo worked for the Veterans Administration in Fargo, North Dakota. He returned to Grand Forks in 1948 to practice law.

Mr. Leo unsuccessfully ran for several public offices, including state's attorney, state treasurer, attorney general and Congress.

He served as president of the Grand Forks County Bar Association in 1970. He was well known here as a criminal defense attorney.

He was a past commander of the American Legion Post No. 6 and belonged to the Elks, Eagles and DAV. He also worked with the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Leo spearheaded the American Cancer Society fund drive in 1952.

Survivors include his wife; three sons, James, Jr., Minneapolis; John, New York City, N.Y.; and Jeffrey, Los Angeles, Calif.; and one brother, Earl, Arvada, Colo.

Services were at 10:30 A.M. Saturday, August 13, 1977, at the Augustana Lutheran Church. Burial was at the Memorial Park Cemetery with Military Honors conducted by American Legion Post No. 6. Hanson-Anderson Mortuary was in charge of the arrangements.

I. M. OSETH
Bismarck, North Dakota

Col. I. M. Oseth, who served as juvenile commissioner of the district court in Bismarck for 15 years following a distinguished military career, died August 29, 1977, at Atlanta, Ga. He was 91 years old.

Oseth came to Bismarck as a young man and in the years between his army service in World Wars I and II, spent many years in public service there. Most notable was his career as juvenile commissioner during which he evolved much of the philosophy and juvenile court procedures adopted in the juvenile court.

The retired colonel had seen service in the Philippines, China and Germany in World War I and the Southwest Pacific in World War II, receiving the Silver Star for his rescue under fire of an American Patrol during an engagement with the Japanese on Luzon. He also held the Legion of Merit and Order of the British Empire, signed by King George VI.

During his long service career he spent considerable time designing, developing and testing military equipment, especially for the infantry, and is credited with being the "Father of the Jeep."

Col. Oseth was born June 27, 1886, at Big Woods (now Oslo), Minnesota, of Norwegian immigrant parents, and graduated from high school at Warren, Minnesota. While employed as a Clerk for the North Dakota Supreme Court after coming to Bismarck, he studied law under Chief Justice Dave Morgan and Justice Dean.

He married Constance E. Strat at St. George's Episcopal Church here August 28, 1912, and the couple moved to Minot where he joined a law firm.

The Oseths returned to Bismarck to make their home in 1946 and he resumed the practice of law. He was named police magistrate here in 1949, serving until 1962. He once fined himself for careless driving after delivering himself a sermon subsequent to

his plea of guilty. At the time he assumed the juvenile commissioner post, it was a part-time position. As the work load increased, it developed into a fulltime job. The popular juvenile commissioner was 81 years old when he resigned, commenting at the time that it would be "positively indecent to stay on the job any longer." He was succeeded by Thomas McCurren, present commissioner.

The Oseths celebrated their golden wedding anniversary here in 1962 and Mrs. Oseth died May 31, 1972.

He leaves two daughters, Jane, wife of Lt. Gen. John E. Kelly (ret.), Marietta, Ga., and Constance, wife of Major Gen. Alan Whiteside, Bugleigh-Salterton, Devon, England, and his sons, Col. Frederic W. Oseth (ret.), Alexandria, Va., and Capt. John M. Oseth, U. S. Navy (ret.), Arlington, Va. There are 15 grandchildren.

Funeral rites were held September 2, 1977, in Washington, D.C., and Col. Oseth was buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

RUDOLPH HAROLD POINTS

Crosby, North Dakota

Rudolph Harold Points, 98, Crosby, North Dakota's oldest practicing lawyer, died January 10, 1978, in a Crosby hospital.

He was born January 9, 1880, at Roaring Springs, Pa. In 1882 he came with his family to Jamestown, where his father homesteaded. The family later returned to Pennsylvania. Mr. Points came back to North Dakota in 1902, and attended the University of North Dakota Law School at Grand Forks. After his graduation in 1904, he opened a law practice in Kensal. He began practicing in Crosby in 1907, and in 1910, he started the town of Outlook, Montana. That same year, he married Mae Hatton. In 1951 she died.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Points also farmed and worked as a banker and real estate agent while in the Crosby area. In the late 1930's and early 1940's he was state's attorney for Divide County. He married Cora Brechbiel, a former schoolmate from Pennsylvania, April 14, 1953. She died in 1964. Mr. Points continued to practice law at Crosby.

Arrangements for his funeral were made at the Stakston Funeral Home at Crosby.

CYTELLA RITTGERS
Jamestown, North Dakota

Funeral services for Mrs. Cytella Rittgers of Jamestown, North Dakota, were held May 20, 1978, in St. James Catholic Church and interment was in Calvary Cemetery. Mrs. Rittgers died May 17, 1978, at Central Dakota Nursing Home after having been in failing health for several years.

Cytella Rittgers was born October 3, 1900, at Dane, Wisconsin. Mrs. Rittgers was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dahn. She came to Bloom Township, North Dakota, with her parents when she was nine years old and attended Jamestown schools. After attending Murphy Business College here she did secretarial work in Carr and Rittgers Law Office. Later, she attended law school in Minneapolis. Returning to Jamestown, she married Harry Rittgers here on March 27, 1937, and they formed the law firm of Rittgers, Rittgers and Hjellum. She was employed as a court reporter for Judge R. G. McFarland for a time. Following her retirement she served as Stutsman County Judge. Her husband died December 26, 1971.

Mrs. Rittgers was a member of St. James Catholic Church, St. Edwards Circle, American National Bar Association, North Dakota Bar Association, and a member of the National Organization of County Judges.

She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Edward Erickson (Luvella), Bismarck, and Mrs. Dolores Grothe, Jamestown. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two sisters and one brother.

LINN SHERMAN
Steele, North Dakota

A one-car accident, one-fourth mile west of the Windsor Interchange on Interstate 94, claimed the life of the Kidder County State's Attorney about 8:00 o'clock P.M. Friday, February 24, 1978.

Linn Sherman, 68, of Steele, apparently lost control of his car when he encountered a stretch of ice and gusty winds after coming through an underpass at the interchange, according to the North Dakota Highway Patrol.

Jamestown Fire Department responded with a rescue vehicle and pumper, where it extricated Sherman from the vehicle, and then helped right the car.

Mr. Sherman was pronounced dead on arrival at the Jamestown Hospital.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 o'clock P.M. on Tuesday, February 28, 1978, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Steele with Rev. James Mueller officiating. Pallbearers were Tim White, Bob Kolodejchuk, Harold Heinze, Dale Svingen, Arnold Kraft and Jack Murphy. Honorary pallbearers were Ruben Bloedau, Floyd Engh, Jake Reule, Walter Koester, Reed Argent, Walter DeVore, Carl Freeman, Art Kirschenmann, Harry George, Art Shipley, Clinton G. Foye and Vince Wamsley. Interment was at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Steele and Perr's Steele Memorial Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Sherman had practiced law in Steele since 1932, serving as city attorney from 1935 and state's attorney since 1947, except for the early 1960's. He owned the Kidder County Abstract Co.

He served for some time as state's attorney representative on the North Dakota Fair Trial-Free Press Council.

He was born at Steele, February 19, 1910, to Mr. and Mrs. John C. Sherman, Kidder County pioneers, grew up here and graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1930. He earned his law degree from UND, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of Coif, honorary legal society, and was admitted to the bar in 1932.

He married Madeline Olson at Steele March 16, 1935.

He had served as attorney for BEK Telephone Co. since its organization, was active in the Masons and Shrine and was a past grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias.

He leaves his wife; a daughter, Mrs. John T. (Marilyn) Whitmore, Bedford, Pa.; two sons, John L., Dickinson, N.D., and William E., Montgomery, Ala., and five grandchildren. He also leaves a brother, Harry, Steele, and a sister, Mrs. Louise Brusseau, Washington, D. C.

OBERT C. TEIGEN
Bismarck, North Dakota

Obert C. Teigen, 69, retired Justice of the North Dakota

Supreme Court and former Chief Justice, died Friday, May 26, 1978, at Bismarck Hospital. He had been ill for several months.

Justice Teigen served 15 years on the state's highest court, retiring in July, 1974. From 1975 until February of this year he served as an Administrative Judge with the Social Security Administration at Denver and then for its Fargo office, continuing his residence in Bismarck while serving the state office.

Justice Teigen was recognized by his fellow jurists and members of the bar for his integrity and fairness. In 1969, when he was a possible appointee to the U. S. Supreme Court, he said in an interview, "One thing I will always do is remain common." He wore his judicial robe with dignity but with the common warmth that bespoke his philosophy of judgeship.

Funeral services were held Sunday, May 28, 1978, at Good Shepard Lutheran Church, Washington Street and Divide Avenue.

Justice Teigen was born September 27, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. Ole O. Teigen on a farm near Tolna in Nelson County. He graduated from high school at Edmore in 1927, received his bachelor of science degree from the University of North Dakota in 1931 and his law degree from UND in 1934.

He began his career in law at Devils Lake as Ramsey County State's Attorney, serving from 1937-43 and again from 1945-47, and he served for two years in 1943-44 as a special agent for the FBI.

He then was in private practice at Devils Lake until appointed Judge of the Second Judicial District in July 1954. He served until January 1959, when Gov. John Davies appointed him as Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court to succeed Gudmundur Grimson.

At 50, he was the youngest member of the five-man court. He was elected to the high court for a 10-year term in 1960 and was appointed Chief Justice in March 1966 following the death of Judge Thomas Burke. In October 1967 he was elected Chief Justice. Teigen was re-elected to the high court in 1970, completed his term as Chief Justice in January 1971 and served as Associate Justice until retiring in mid-term.

He married Ople Braund January 6, 1934, at Grand Forks. He leaves his wife at 1327 Meredith Drive; a son, Phillip, a Denver attorney; two grandchildren; and one brother, Richard, Tustin, California.

Justice Teigen helped to initiate the North Dakota Free Press - Fair Trial Council in 1969 and served as its first chairman.

Always interested in youth, he was a past president of the Lake Agassiz Council, Boy Scouts of America. In the earlier years of his career he headed the North Dakota Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Devils Lake Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club and the city's planning commission.

He was a director of the North Dakota Rural Rehabilitation Corps, chairman of the State Selective Service Appeal Board; chairman of the Juvenile Court Advisory Council to the State Department of Social Services; and had been a member of the award jury for the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa., in 1965. Among his professional affiliations, he was a director of the American Judicature Society.

CORBIN A. WALDRON

Minot, North Dakota

Corbin A. (Cal) Waldron, longtime Minot lawyer and North Dakota's poet laureate since 1957, died April 12, 1978, at his home at 908 4th St. SE. He was 79.

A memorial service was held April 15, 1978, at First Presbyterian Church where he had been a longtime church trustee. Private family rites were conducted at Rosehill Memorial Park.

Mr. Waldron had practiced law in Minot since 1928, and was a member of the firm of Waldron, Kenner & Halvorson. He was involved in a broad range of affairs in the community and in the state, but was perhaps best known for his poetry, having delivered his first poem in public at his eighth grade graduation in Humansville, Mo.

He started writing poems as a boy of 10. He had several books of verse published, and had composed some 20 songs. He addressed the Legislature in verse in 1957. His last work was his first children's book, "The Adventures of Pedro, A Polar Bear," written in 1976.

His work has appeared in several newspapers, including the Minneapolis Tribune, The Minot Daily News, the Michigan Republican and The Bismarck Tribune.

A native of Independence, Iowa, where he was born January 7, 1899, Mr. Waldron came to Minot shortly after his graduation from the University of Minnesota Law School in June, 1927. He later lived in Missouri, and in Flasher and Mandan. He was

graduated from Mandan High School and attended North Dakota State University in Fargo for three years before going to the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Waldron volunteered for military service during World War I at Fort Sheridan, Ill.

He was active in Republican politics, and in 1968 gave the keynote address at the convention of former Fifth District Republicans.

He was a trustee of the Presbyterian church and a division leader for the fund raising campaign conducted by the Building Committee for a new church in 1953. He was a member of the board of the Minot YMCA and active in Y events since the building was constructed in 1952.

He was a member of the Bar Association and served a term as president of the Ward County Bar unit. He was a former president of the Magic City Toastmasters Club and was presented the club's first life membership award in 1968.

He had worked in behalf of alcoholics, and had served on the board of directors of the Heartview Foundation at Mandan and on the newly organized board of the halfway house for alcoholics and other drug addicts at Minot.

His other involvement included work for the United Fund Drive at Minot.

He married Doris Tillotson at Hope on June 27, 1928. She was the organist at the Presbyterian Church in Minot for 12 years prior to her death in 1964.

Survivors include his daughter, Mrs. A. B. (Marilyn Ruth) Cameron, Castro Valley, California, a son, David, Devils Lake, and several grandchildren.

BENCH

and

BAR

