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MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE
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Rep. Nelson of Breckenridge Dies at 61

Veteran State Rep. Reuben N. Nelson, Breckenridge DFLer, died Wednesday at University of Minnesota Hospitals. He was 61.



Rep. Nelson, who had served in the House of Representatives since 1957, was admitted to the hospitals Jan. 31 suffering from a heart condition. He died of a cardiac arrest, hospital sources said.

The attorney also had served at the city and county levels of government.

He was Breckenridge city attorney from 1932 to 1937 and Wilkin County attorney from 1943 to 1956, when he was elected to the house.

In the 1965 legislative session, Rep. Nelson sided with GOP-aligned Conservatives to back a state sales tax.

Rep. Nelson graduated from Wheaton, Minn., High School, attended Hamline University for one year and graduated from the St. Paul College of Law.

He had been secretary-treasurer of the Breckenridge Savings and Loan Association. He was a member of the board of law examiners from 1951 to 1954, president of his district bar association in 1944 and 1945 and was a member of the Rotary Club.

Gov. Karl Rolvaag said:

"Minnesota has lost one of its most able, skilled and experienced legislators in the passing of Reuben Nelson. I have lost a dear and close personal friend.

"Mr. Nelson was highly regarded and highly respected by all members of the Minnesota Legislature regardless of their personal allegiance. He will be sorely missed."

Survivors include his widow, Aileen; two daughters, Mary A. and Margaret R., and three sons, Peter F., John P. and James.

Funeral arrangements are pending.