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Myrton Wegener; served in Legislature

Myrton Wegener, 73, a Todd County commissioner and former state senator from Bertha from 1973 to 1983, died of a heart attack Sunday at his home in Bertha. *ST*

He was known as a behind-the-scenes legislator who would cling to an issue until some action was taken, said Rep. Bruce Nelsen, IR-Staples, a longtime friend and colleague.

Rural affairs were his forte. He was chairman of the Local and Urban Government and joint Agriculture Land Preservation and Conservation committees. He sponsored bills to create higher milk prices and more farm aid.

He pushed for bills to give cities more control of public policies, including one that allowed each municipality to develop its own liquor sale ordinances.

Wegener was born in Woodside Township and graduated from high school in Bertha. He worked on his parents' farm and then operated a farm equipment dealership. He served two terms as the mayor of Bertha and was executive director of the League of Small Cities before being elected to the state Senate. After his defeat in 1983, he returned to his used-car and real estate businesses. He was elected Todd County commissioner in 1990. *5-7-1991*

He is survived by his wife, Hazel, and two sisters, Irene Boehland of Clarissa, Minn., and Myrtle Simpson of Osakis, Minn.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bertha. Visitation will be held after 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Domian-Anderson Funeral Home, Bertha.