

Former Rep. H.C. Andersen dies in Virginia

H. Carl Andersen, 81, a Minnesota congressman for 24 years, died Wednesday in Falls Church, Va., after a long illness.

Andersen, a farmer from Tyler, Minn., was elected to Congress in 1938 after serving in the Minnesota Legislature. A Republican, he represented the old Seventh District. He was the ranking minority member of the House subcommittee on appropriations for agriculture and also was a member of the subcommittee on public works. He once called his years in Congress "the most wonderful portion of my life."

In 1962, after reapportionment had eliminated the Seventh District, Andersen ran in the Republican primary for the new Sixth District seat. For the first time he ran without his party's support. He was defeated by Robert Odegard, a car dealer, who was defeated in the general election by DFLer Alec

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Andersen lost Republican Party support in 1962 because he had sold \$4,000 worth of shares in a family coal mine to Billie Sol Estes, a Texas millionaire who was convicted of fraud and theft for his manipulations in government programs. Andersen testified before the House that he had done no favors for Estes, but he became the first victim of the scandal.

Andersen quit the Republican Party after the scandal broke, then rejoined and decided to run in the primary after Odegard had been endorsed.

After losing the primary, Andersen, then 65, retired to his home in Falls Church, a suburb of Washington, D.C. He operated a small business at his home and continued his farming interests in southwestern Minnesota.

Survivors include his wife, Martha, and two sons, Charles Carl, Wenatchee, Wash., and Alfred, Denver. He is also survived by two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two nephews.