AIF Bergerud

AIF BERGERUD's craggy face, lefacity and penchant for hard work made him a forbidding figure to those who knew him only slightly in business or in the Legislature. But behind that forbidding exterior was a businessmanlawyer-legislator with an enviable record.

Bergerud's 34 years with Red Owl Stores, Inc. — the last five as president — overlapped his 30 years of service in the Minnesota Legislature. It was as a legislator that he will perhaps best be remembered. He fought long and successfully for state reapportionment, anti-pollution legislation and, taking a position in opposition to most of his fellow business executives, for increases in unemployment and workmen's compensation.

Bergerud was a member of a disappearing breed: the citizen-legislator. His contributions to business and the state are his memorial.