

Obituaries

STARTRIBUNE - MAR 16 '99

Former state legislator William E. Carlson dies

A wake will be held today for former state Rep. William E. Carlson, who spent 30 years in public service.

He died of a heart attack at his home Saturday. He was 86.

Carlson served in the Minnesota House from 1947 to 1953. He received the DFL Party's endorsement and ran for the U.S. Senate in 1952, losing to Republican Edward Thye. He planned to seek the DFL nomination again in 1958 but stepped aside when former U.S. Sen. Eugene McCarthy decided to run again.

Carlson was elected a Ramsey County Commissioner in 1956 and elected to the St. Paul City Council in 1966. He became Ramsey County assessor in 1971 and retired in 1977.

He also worked as an insurance salesman for 35 years.

Carlson graduated from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, where he also taught English literature. He was a Naval officer on a carrier ship in World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia; four daughters; three sons, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Willwerscheid and Peters Mortuary West-Heights Memorial Chapel in St. Paul.

— *Associated Press*