

## Obituaries

STARTRIBUNE-M AUG 17 '94

# Vic Jude, longtime member of Legislature, dies at age 71

By David Chanen  
Staff Writer

It's safe to say that politics runs in Vic Jude's family. His father, Bernard, was mayor of Maple Lake, Minn. Vic was a 17-year member of the Minnesota Legislature, and his son, Tad, of Fridley, was a longtime legislator and Hennepin County commissioner.

Jude, 71, known for walking around the Capitol with a cigar in his mouth, died of cancer Monday at St. Cloud Hospital.

Jude, of Maple Lake, was chairman of the Wright County DFL and treasurer of the party's state central committee when he was elected to represent Wright County in the House in 1956. He served until 1966, when he was elected to the Senate.

He was defeated in a close election in 1973, the year Tad was elected to the Legislature. Tad said he would have liked to have served with his father, but enjoyed the time he spent with him outside the political arena.

"He encouraged all his children to be interested in issues and public policy, but was more encouraging when it came to our family life," said Tad, who is an Independent-Republican candidate for U.S. Congress in the Sixth District. "Dad did give me good advice politically, but like all children, sometimes I wouldn't take it."

Vic Jude took a great interest in building the state park system and was national chairman of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission. Bills he sponsored ranged from one instituting a governing body for high school athletics (which was developed several years



Vic Jude, who served 17 years in the Legislature, died Monday.

after he left office) to one requiring industries to install pollution control devices.

When the Legislature wasn't in session, Jude operated the Jude Candy and Tobacco Co., a wholesale firm started by his father. He expanded the business through his strong communication skills, Tad said. The business, which now distributes paper products and "almost anything you might find in a convenience store," is operated by Jude's son, Peter, of Maple Lake.

"I would say some of Dad's public policy would come from conversations he had with business owners and other customers on his routes," Tad said.

"Mom was a bit of a Republican," he said. "Dad always enjoyed good relationships with members of both parties."

Jude was a director of Brooklyn

Park's first bank, a charter member of the National Association of State Legislators and a member of the Wright County Retirement Association, Lions Club, Knights of Columbus, PTA, Wright County Sportsmen, Wright County Agricultural Association, American Legion, VFW and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping.

He was born in Maple Lake and was in the Army during World War II. During the Battle of the Bulge in 1944, he received two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star. He earned a bachelor's degree from what is now the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, did graduate work at the University of Minnesota and studied at the Minnesota College of Law.

He also is survived by his wife, Ruth; three other sons, John, of Buffalo, Minn., and Paul and James, both of Maple Lake; four daughters, Marian Seliski, of St. Cloud; Maureen Seliski, of St. Anthony; Maria Metz, of Maple Lake, and Mary Sullivan, of Maple Grove; two sisters, Elizabeth Nelson, of Minneapolis, and Monica Loch, of Maple Lake, and three brothers, Richard, of Sun City, Ariz.; James, of Coral Gables, Fla., and G. William, of Florida.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Timothy's Catholic Church, 8 Oak Av. N., Maple Lake. Visitation will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the Dingmann Messina Funeral Home, 108 Oak Av. N., Maple Lake. Memorials to St. Timothy's School in Maple Lake or the St. Cloud Hospital hospice program are suggested.