

## Obituaries

# Lyle Farmer, dies at 74; was former state representative

Lyle Farmer, 74, a former state representative and longtime physics teacher at St. Paul's Johnson High School, died Friday at North St. Paul Care Center.

Farmer, of St. Paul, was born in Mankato, Minn., and graduated from what is now Mankato State University. From 1948 to 1963 he taught at Johnson, where he also served as athletic director for several years.

He represented St. Paul's East Side Payne-Phalen neighborhood as a state representative for two terms in the early 1960s. Farmer wanted to create educational policy instead of just implementing it as a teacher, said his son, David, of Maplewood.

"He had a concern for the funding of educational programs," David Farmer said. "Education was his life."

From 1963 until he retired in 1986 Farmer was secretary-treasurer of the St. Paul Teachers

Retirement Fund Association. He also had been president of Local 28 of the St. Paul Federation of Teachers.

After retirement, he was active with a variety of groups. He was a board member of Lyngblomsten Care Center in St. Paul, taught in 55 Alive, a senior driver education program, and was a volunteer with VITA, which provides income tax preparation to seniors.

Besides his son, he is survived by his wife, Ellen; another son, John, of White Bear Lake; a daughter, Kathleen Carver, of Fargo, N.D., and six grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1660 Birch Lake Av., White Bear Lake. Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Anderson Funeral Home, 1401 Arcade St., St. Paul.