

Ex-congressman Odin Langen dies

7-7-76

Odin Langen, 63, a former Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives for six terms, died yesterday at his farm near Kennedy.

Langen was elected to Congress in 1958, defeating DFL Rep. Coya Knutson, whose husband, Andy, wrote a nationally publicized "Coya-Come-Home" letter asking her to leave office.

After being reelected five times



ODIN LANGEN
Served 6 terms

from the 7th District in northwestern Minnesota, Langen was defeated in 1970 by DFLer Bob Bergland, who still holds the seat.

Langen then was appointed administrator of the packers and stockyards unit of the Department of Agriculture by former President Richard Nixon. He retired in 1972 and spent his time at his 1,800-acre farm and in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

He was born in Minneapolis, but a year later his family returned to its original home at Kennedy. He graduated from high school there and studied two years at the Dunwoody Industrial Institute in Minneapolis.

LANGEN WAS elected to the Legislature from Kittson County in 1950. He was majority leader in the House during the 1957 session.

In Congress, he was on the House Appropriations Committee and its subcommittee on agriculture. He was chairman of the House Republican task force on agriculture.

Langen, a fiscal conservative, received the "Watchdog of the Treasury" award several times from the National Businessmen's Association.

Langen is survived by his wife, Lillian; a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Pagnac, Stephen, Minn.; two sons, Lynden and Wayne, who run the farm in Kennedy, and nine grandchildren.

Services will be held Friday in the Red River Lutheran Church in Kennedy.