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~~STARTRIBUNE-M FEB 22 '96~~

L.L. Lenertz, 85, retired district judge, former state legislator

Lawrence L. Lenertz, 85, a retired district judge and former state representative, died Wednesday at Regina Memorial Hospital in Hastings.

Lenertz, of Hastings and formerly of South St. Paul, was born in St. James, Minn., where his father ran a stockyard. He and his family later moved to Shakopee, then to South St. Paul.

He graduated from high school there and from the University of Minnesota in 1930. He graduated from Yale University Law School in 1936. He practiced law in South St. Paul and was attorney for Inver Grove Township for 26 years. He served as a state representative from 1939 to 1942. During World War II he spent five years as a special agent for the FBI.

In 1967, Gov. Harold LeVander appointed him a special municipal judge in South St. Paul, a position created shortly before by the South St. Paul City Council.

The governor appointed him a district judge in 1970. He was reelected twice. Lenertz worked in the Hennepin, Ramsey and Dakota County district courts before he reached the mandatory retirement age of 70 in 1981. His wife, Ellen, died that year.

He is survived by sons Frederick, of Edina; Lawrence Jr., of Lakeland; David and Mark, both of South St. Paul, and Robert, of Inver Grove Heights; a daughter, Mary Haub, of Denver; a brother, Irwin, of South St. Paul, and 11 grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 302 5th Av. N., South St. Paul. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. at the church. Memorials to the church are suggested. Arrangements are by the Willwerscheid & Peters Mortuary West-Heights Memorial Chapel.