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Title: Thomas Ticen served on Hennepin board
He was a lawyer who was also a legislator from 1967 until 1973.
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Thomas Ticen, a former state legislator who also served as chairman of the Hennepin County Board, died of complications from lung cancer in Minnetonka on Saturday. He was 78.

Ticen, who was in the House from 1967 to 1973, and on the Hennepin County Board from 1973 to 1979, was "one of the brightest" public servants, said John Derus, a former commissioner.

"He had the amazing ability to look at a complicated system ... and find a possible answer," said Derus.

Ticen represented a district including Bloomington and Richfield on the board. In 1975 he played a key role in expanding the board from five to seven members. He also initiated seniors' programs.

Ticen, a University of St. Thomas graduate, earned his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1951.

After leaving the County Board, Ticen opened a private practice specializing in seniors issues. And he made house calls to save his elderly clients the trouble of coming to his office.

He is survived by his wife, Gayle, of Isle, Minn.; daughters Joanne Mallon of Chaska and Mary Sticha of Bloomington; a son, Thomas of Credit River Township; a stepson, Randal Johnson of Texas, and 11 grandchildren.

Services will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday at St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, 7227 Penn Av. S., Richfield, with visitation at 4 p.m.

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