

Roger W. Sunleaf, 65



Roger Wendell Sunleaf, 65, of Montezuma, died suddenly at his home on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2003.

His funeral service was Friday, Sept. 19, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Bellevue, with Pastor Paul Gammelini officiating. Interment followed at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery at Bellevue. Funeral arrangements were by Watts Funeral Home of Montezuma.

Casket bearers were Robert Downer, Ron Coleman, Henry Franken, LaVerne Jack, Bill Mason and Harvey Horn.

Honorary casket bearers were John Morrissey, Chuck Manly, Paul Mason, Sr., Paul Mason, Wilbur Jack and Dr. B.G. Wiltfang.

Roger was born on May 26, 1938, at Bellevue, the son of Arthur Wendell and Virginia (Andersen) Sunleaf. He graduated from Bellevue Public High School in 1955. He graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. degree in 1959 and a J.D. degree in 1963. He was admitted to the Iowa Bar Association in 1963. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve. Roger also played in a dance band for several

years and was an accomplished musician playing bass, clarinet and banjo. He moved to Montezuma in 1964 and worked for the McFarlin Law Office. On October 23, 1965, he was united in marriage with Rose Marie De Gear at St. John's Lutheran Church at Bellevue. Upon the death of Mr. McFarlin, Roger joined the law firm of McNeil & Bonham. Roger practiced law in the McNeil & Sunleaf law firm until his death. Roger has served as city attorney for Montezuma since 1966. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church at Bellevue. He also was a member of the Poweshiek County Bar Association, (President from 1970-1973), Eighth Judicial District and Iowa Bar Association, Association of Trial Lawyers of Iowa (member, Board of Governors 1976-1983, and Secretary in 1982), Iowa Municipal Attorneys Association and the Iowa Defense Counsel. Roger also was admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court.

Roger is survived by his wife, Rose Marie, of Montezuma; a brother, David (and Sue) Sunleaf of Davenport; several nieces, nephews and other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Roger Sunleaf Memorial.

MR - SEPT. 24, 2003