James Nesmith

James H. Nesmith, 88, of Iowa City, a former Kellogg resident and state senator, died Tuesday, March 10, in Iowa City

Graveside services were conducted Friday at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Iowa City.

Memorials in his name may be made to the Kellogg Historical Society.

The son of Thomas Aaron and Mary Florence Smith Nesmith, he was born March 20, 1903, in Moline. He was raised in Kellogg and had lived in Jasper County for 48 years. Mr. Nesmith attended Kellogg schools and the University of Iowa.

He was the founder of Plumbers Supply Co. in 1951 and served as company president until his retirement.

He was married to Gladys
L. McIntosh Dec. 27, 1924,
in Manchester. She died in
1975. Mr. Nesmith was married to Edna Sterner July 1,
1976, in Winsted, Minn.

Mr. Nesmith served four terms as a member of the Kellogg City Council and one term on the local school board. He was a veteran of World War II. He served as a state senator from Jasper County from 1949 to 1953, at which time he moved to Iowa City. He later served for seven years on the Iowa City City Council.

He was a member of the Board of Curators of the State Historical Society and served as chairman of the board's building committee. He also served as president of Business Development Inc. He was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge and Iowa City Rotary.

Surviving are his wife, Edna; two daughters, Susan Johnson of Grinnell and Nora Lee Balmer of Iowa City; seven grandchildren; 15 greatgrandchildren; and two sisters, Norline Green of Tucson, Ariz., and Jean Beck of Kingsport, Tenn. He was preceded in death by his parents; this first wife; and a sister of Edith Schultz.