

Obituaries

Carl Jensen, former state legislator and tax judge, dies at 67

Carl A. Jensen, 67, an attorney, tax judge and Minnesota legislator for 24 years, died of cancer Wednesday at his home in Arden Hills.

Jensen, a native of Sleepy Eye, Minn., graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1949 and represented his hometown in the Minnesota House under the Independent-Republican or conservative label from 1951 to 1961.

When he returned to private law practice in 1961, he also was Sleepy Eye city attorney, attorney for the Minnesota Association of Township Officers and attorney for the Sleepy Eye School District.

Jensen returned to the Capitol in 1967 as state senator, IR-Sleepy Eye, and was particularly involved in tax issues, school aid and local government. He was on the tax committee, the rules and commerce elections committee and served as the senate representative on the Voyager's National Park Commission.

"He was always a stable voice and he was always looking for fairness," said Sen. John Bernhagen, IR-Hutchinson. "Very concerned that issues were treated on an even-handed ba-

sis. Particularly of his desire to make sure that the rules that we govern ourselves by were fair. When that was done the public could expect fair treatment because we were treated fairly between ourselves."

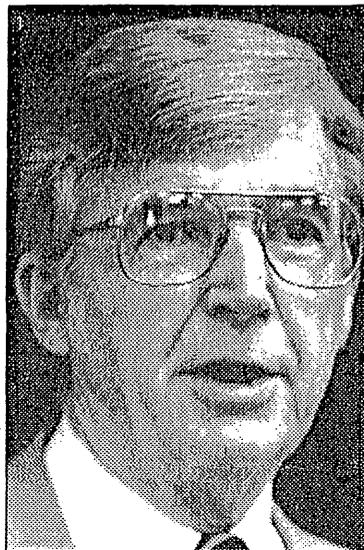
Jensen chose not to run for reelection in 1982.

"We both talked about moving back to the city," said his wife, Patricia. "There was an opening on the Minnesota Tax Court and because he'd been on the tax committee . . . and he was very interested in that position and did in fact get appointed."

Jensen shocked some of his former associates when he resigned from the Tax Court in 1986, defected to the Minnesota DFL, and mounted a Senate campaign against freshman IR Sen. Fritz Knaak of White Bear Lake. Jensen lost the election.

He was diagnosed with cancer late in December and underwent surgery in January.

Besides his wife he is survived by sons Steven of Little Canada, Scott of Waconia, Minn., Paul of San Diego, Calif., and Bruce of Mankato, Minn.; a daughter, Karen Graham of Phoe-



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nix, Ariz.; a stepdaughter, Ramona Schmitz of Circle Pines; stepsons Richard Passman of St. Paul and John Passman of Minneapolis; a sister, Elnor Philipson of Sleepy Eye; brothers Herbert of St. Paul, Jens of Oregon and Harold of Philadelphia; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Friday at the Waterston Funeral Home, 4343 Nicollet Av. S., Minneapolis. Visitation will begin at 5:30 p.m.