

Obituaries

Karl Neumeier, ex-state senator

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Karl Neumeier, 103, a former state senator and University of Minnesota regent, died Friday at Greeley Health Care Center in Stillwater.

Neumeier, of Stillwater, ran for the Senate seat of his law partner, George H. Sullivan, who died in the 1930s. Neumeier served from 1934 to 1950.

He was a crusader for lower taxes, authoring a bill to allow state income taxes to be filed jointly, something previously allowed only on federal taxes. He was chairman of the Senate Tax Committee and set up the "Little Hoover Commission," which monitored legislative efficiency.

In 1953 he was voted to the university Board of Regents, but was strongly challenged for the appointment by Judence Cutright in one of the first efforts to get a woman elected to the post. He retired from the board in 1959 to return to his private law practice, and he continued to work until he was 88.

He received the University of Minnesota's Outstanding Achievement Award in 1961 and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Stillwater High School. He founded the Stillwater Lions Club, and the Stillwater Jaycees presents an annual award for manager of the year in his honor.

Neumeier was born in Stillwater and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and a law degree from William Mitchell College of Law.

He was a board member of three banks in Stillwater, president of the Stillwater Library and Sunday school superintendent of Ascension Episcopal Church in Stillwater. He was a member of the Elks and Masonic Lodge.

He had a summer home in Somerset, Wis., where he enjoyed tending rose bushes and maintaining trout ponds.

He is survived by his wife of 77 years, Pauline; a son, Karl, and two daughters, Josephine Langford and Catharine Bell, all of Somerset.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Ascension Episcopal Church, 214 N. 3rd St., Stillwater. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Simonet Funeral Home, 8429 Osgood Av. N., Oak Park Heights. Memorials to the church or Lakeview Memorial Hospital, Stillwater, are suggested.