# Zorinsky eulogized, buried in Omaha

By The Associated Press

OMAHA — Sen. Edward Zorinsky was eulogized as a man of integrity and an advocate for farmers and his state.

About 1,200 people filled Beth El Synagogue Sunday afternoon to pay their respects to Zorinsky, who died of a heart attack Friday. Zorinsky's wife, Cece, and other family members sat in a pew across the aisle from 18 of Zorinsky's fellow senators, who wore black Jewish skull caps.

Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., and Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng, representing President Reagan, were among that group.

"You could never really categorize Ed because he always did the things he believed were right," said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, during the eulogy at the 35 minute service.

"He was a terrific advocate for Nebraska. Everywhere he went he advocated for his home state," Hatch said. "He was an advocate for the famers, he never let you down."

Zorinsky, 56, was the second-ranking Democrat on the Senate Agriculture Committee and was chairman of its commodities subcommittee.

The senator was also eulogized by Beth El Rabbi emeritus Myer S. Kripke and Senate Chaplain the Rev. Richard Halverson.

"He loved and he cared and he took his tasks seriously," Halverson said.

One of Zorinsky's first acts upon taking office as mayor of Omaha in 1973 was to remove the door from his office to signify that he welcomed the opinions of his constituents.

Burial followed the service at Beth El Cemetery. Representatives from each branch of the armed services served as pallbearers. Zorinsky served 14 years in the Military Police Corps Reserve, attaining the rank of captain.

Zorinsky is survived by his wife; two sons, Barry and Jeffrey; a daughter, Susan Goodman; his mother, Sonia; a sister, Esther Rice; and two grandchildren, all of Omaha.

Gov. Kay Orr must appoint someone to serve the remaining two years of Zorinsky's term. Orr, a Republican, said during the weekend she would decide later.

Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

**Pall bearers carry the casket of Sen. Edward Zorinski to the burial site at Beth El Cemetery, 84th and L streets in Omaha Sunday.**

# Regent Koefoot loses lst round of trial

By Joeth Zucco
Staff Reporter

Dr. Robert Koefoot, member of the NU Board of Regents, lost the first round in federal court in his case against the American College of Surgeons Friday.

The jury ruled in favor of the Chicago-based college, saying that it did not violate the Sherman Anti-trust Law. The college bars its members from performing surgery if they don't provide postoperative care themselves.

Koefoot was expelled from the college in 1981 because he was practicing itinerant surgery within a 40-mile radius of Grand Island, where he has a private practice.

Apparently, Koefoot would travel in the early hours of the morning with a nurse-anesthetist, perform surgery in St. Paul, Fullerton or Central City hospitals, leave the patients in the care of their doctor and return to Grand Island to work in his office.

The ACS instituted the rule against itinerant surgery in 1964 according to the Dec. 22, 1986, issue of Medical Economics, Koefoot did not heed the bylaw and continued practicing itinerant surgery for another 10 years.

The magazine said in 1971, Koefoot went before the ACS Board for practicing itinerant surgery and splitting fees with referring doctors. He wasn't cited or disciplined and continued to practice for another seven years under the misunderstanding that itinerant surgery was only if the patient was turned over to a general practitioner when another surgeon wasn't available.

The issue cropped up again in 1978 when Koefoot hired William L. Fowles, a general surgeon in his Grand Island office. Fowles applied for ACS fellowship but was rejected because he practiced itinerant surgery. Koefoot defended him in letters, saying he'd been doing the same for 25 years. The college still disapproved, so Fowles said he would restrict his practice to Grand Island, and Koefoot came under investigation by ACS.

Koefoot went to court in October 1978 with evidence that 46 of the 221 ACS members in Nebraska performed itinerant surgery and that it was vital to Nebraskans. In June 1979, the central judiciary committee of ACS suspended him from membership and gave him one year to discontinue his itinerant surgery.

That fall, Koefoot sued the American College of surgeons, its regents and two

**Koefoot**

directors in the U.S. District Court for Nebraska. He contended that the itinerant rule restricted competition and was unfairly enforced. ACS won the case as a dismissal in February 1981. Koefoot was expelled from the organization that August.

Koefoot appealed his suit to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in July 1981. His trial made it to court in February 1987.

Koefoot argued that the ban "was designed not to ensure quality patient care, but to limit competition among the college's member surgeons and encourage hospitals to provide slots for young practioners, "according to the Lincoln Star.


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