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226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com



(S.D.)-First S.D. Woman To Serve As County And Circuit Judge Dies



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/12/2013 08:31 AM

(Photo courtesy of the Argus Leader)

PIERRE, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - The first woman to serve as a county judge and circuit court judge in South Dakota has died.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard says the Hon. Mildred Ramynke, of Peever, died Saturday at age 96.

He called her "a trailblazer for women" in the state and a distinguished judge.

Ramynke became the first female county judge in South Dakota when she took the bench in Roberts County in 1958. She later served as county judge for Day, Grant and Marshall Counties.

After the Unified Judicial System was created, Ramynke was elected to the Fifth Judicial Circuit, becoming the state's first female circuit judge.

She retired in 1986.

Daugaard ordered flags to fly half-staff at the Capitol on Monday for Ramynke's funeral.