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NEWS RELEASE

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City Mourns Loss of Councilman Voetberg

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Dirk N. Voetberg, Dubuque’s Fourth Ward City Council representative, passed away at 11:38 p.m. on Feb. 8, 2011, after battling acute leukemia since July 2010.

Voetberg, 62, was in his fourth term as fourth ward representative on the City Council. He was first elected to the City Council in 1987 and served three consecutive terms before leaving the council in 2000. He was elected again in 2007 and his current term was to expire Dec. 31, 2011. He was also a current member of Dubuque’s Sister City Committee, Safe Community Task Force, Long-Range Planning Commission, and the Dubuque Conference Board. Voetberg also represented the City Council on the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation System (DMATS), Dubuque Initiatives Board of Directors, Iowa League of Cities Legislative Policy Committee, and the National League of Cities Community and Economic Development Policy and Advocacy Committee.

“We are truly saddened by Dirk’s death. Throughout his illness and treatment, he was so strong, so optimistic, and continued to think about his community and the citizens he served,” said Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol. “Dirk was a friend, a colleague and, when I was first elected to the City Council, a mentor. He had a great sense of humor, a respected world view, and he eagerly shared his knowledge and travel experiences. The Dubuque community has lost a tireless advocate and critical thinker. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dirk’s wife, Pam, their son, and his family.”

Buol has ordered the flags at all City of Dubuque facilities and properties lowered to half-mast until Monday, Feb. 14.

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