



R. F. Martin

Beloved Professors Taken By Death

Within a few short weeks death claimed the lives of two emeritus professors of Otterbein, Dr. Royal Frederick Martin and Dr. Edward Waldo Emerson Schear. Both gave themselves faithfully in dedication to the welfare of their students, their college, their church and their community. Both were well known and respected beyond the towers of their alma mater. It is of such substance that the heritage of Otterbein College has been woven through the years.

Both were loyal and active members of the Church of the Master, United Methodist (formerly First Evangelical United Brethren). Both were 50-year members of the Masonic order. Doctor Martin died on June 30 and Doctor Schear on September 2nd.

When the Reverend Mr. Paul Stuckey preached the funeral sermon for Doctor Martin, he spoke of him as a "man of tenaciously held principles, . . . of perseverance, . . . (a man for whom) providence was at the heart of the picture . . . He was known as a caring counselor, an inspiring coach, a diligent and dedicated administrator as he was called by his beloved college to 'wear many hats' and to serve in countless capacities."

R. F. Martin received a bachelor of physical education degree from Springfield College in 1911, a bachelor of arts from Otterbein in 1914, a master of education from Spring-

field in 1935, and the honorary LL.D. from Otterbein in 1951. He was on the Otterbein faculty from 1913 to 1917 and from 1919 to 1958, when he retired as vice president and professor of physical education. The board of trustees named him the fifteenth president of the college in recognition of his service as interim president in 1945-46.

During his tenure at Otterbein, he served as head of the physical education department (part of that time teaching women's physical education as well), as athletic coach, athletic director, dean of men, as dean of the college, as vice president and as interim president. He was an adviser to service men and veterans and was instrumental in bringing the Air Force ROTC to the campus. Doctor Martin was active in community affairs, as a 32nd degree Mason, as a charter member of the Westerville Lions Club, and in his work as a faithful churchman.

He is survived by his wife (Ferne Gelbaugh, '22), a son, Dr. Donald R., '37, two grandsons, Donald R. II, '63, and Thomas N., '66, and two great grandchildren.

Family and friends have started a memorial scholarship in his honor, and gifts for this purpose may be sent to the Development Office of the college.

Doctor Edward Waldo Emerson Schear, '07, died at the age of 90 after a long illness. He had been a member of the life science faculty of Otterbein College for thirty-nine years. The former Mrs. Schear (Geneva Nichols, '13), died in 1946, and he had later remarried. He is survived by his wife, the former Marian Sharp; a son, Dr. Evan Schear, '44, a colonel in the U. S. Army now stationed in Germany; a granddaughter, Mrs. Herbert Anderson (Judith Ann Schear, x'70), two great granddaughters, and nieces and nephews.

In his eulogy of Doctor Schear at the funeral service, the Reverend Mr. Paul Stuckey described him as a man who has made his mark on many lives and on the lives of the campus, church and community as an enabler and enricher, as a man of wit and wisdom, and as a man of faith.

When Dr. J. Hutch Williams, '44, presented him in 1970 for an Otterbein Distinguished Service Award, he described his former teacher and adviser as a "gentleman whose intellectual attainment has been well balanced by his warmth and humanism. Today



E. W. E. Schear

he is particularly remembered by those who have passed through Otterbein's portals to careers in the life sciences," he said. "His intellect, enthusiasm, insatiable curiosity and belief in the individual have played a major role in the careers of many."

To those who remember him as a chapel speaker or classroom teacher, he will live forever as one who made the poetry of the universe a living symphony, who believed in a God who was in all things.

A graduate of Otterbein in 1907, Doctor Schear received the M. A. degree from Columbia University in 1915 and the Ph. D. from The Ohio State University in 1928. He was a member of the Otterbein faculty from 1912 to 1951, when he retired as a professor of biology and geology.

He was a 50-year member of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science and served two terms as vice president of the Ohio Academy. He was a charter member of the Otterbein chapter and served as national president of the science fraternity, Sigma Zeta.

His church and community activities included active membership in the Church of the Master, United Methodist; the Westerville and Franklin County Historical Societies; the Boy Scout Council; Sons of the American Revolution; and sponsorship of Sigma Zeta.

Mr. Rillmond Schear honored his uncle a few years ago by starting a scholarship in his name, so that the influence of his life would be perpetuated. Alumni and other friends may show their appreciation of his service to Otterbein by contributing to this fund.