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H. Ted Davis, teacher and scholar

Furman University

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Paul Alvin Stephens '49, July 22, Campobello, S.C. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, he served in five battles and campaigns and was decorated with five Bronze Stars for his service in the European, African and Mediterranean theaters. He went on to pastor several Baptist churches and organized Jackson Memorial Baptist Church in Campobello, which he served as pastor emeritus.

Angel Pablo Aguilera '50, July 8, 2008, Sarasota, Fla. He was a retired educator, having taught in Florida, Georgia and Mexico, and was active in mission work.

Charles Saylor '50, June 7, Greenville. He joined the U.S. Navy after high school and served in various locations during World War II. He was a retired salesman for Grant Textiles. He was a past master

of Wade Hampton Masonic Lodge, past captain of the Hejaz Marching Patrol, and past president of the South Atlantic and Southeastern Shrine Patrol associations. He was a former executive committee member for Hejaz Temple, as well as a member of 12 Shrine Temples throughout North America. He was also a member of the American Legion.

Betty McSwain Knox '51, July 7, Atlanta. She was an elementary school teacher and was active in community outreach programs. She was a hostess at Intown Community Assistance, which supplied food, clothing and small household items to those in need. She was a member of the volunteer staff of the *Bond Community Star* newspaper from 1974 until 1998.

William Clyde Bates '52, August 9, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army veteran and a retired accountant.

Betty Marshall Bedenbaugh '52, June 11, Greenville. She and her late husband were retired Southern Baptist missionaries to Tanzania. She was an active member of the Greenville Lions Club.

Caroline Sligh Dargan '52, August 17, Myrtle Beach, S.C. She was the first woman ordained a deacon in the history of First Presbyterian Church of Myrtle Beach.

J. Wesley Drawdy, Sr. '52, July 5, Cherryville, N.C. He served with the Merchant Marines and was selected for Officer Candidate School. He eventually served as a ship's second officer. After his military service he attended law school and

went on to practice for several decades in Columbia, S.C. He was a member of numerous social, literary, benevolent and scientific organizations.

Dick Campbell '53, June 9, Halls, Tenn. He coached basketball on the high school and college levels for many years, with college stints at North Greenville Junior College (now University), Carson-Newman, The Citadel, Xavier University and Belmont College. He was a member of the Greater Knoxville (Tenn.) Sports Hall of Fame and of the athletic halls of fame at North Greenville and Carson-Newman.

Henry H. Smith, Jr. '53, June 22, Columbia, S.C. He had a 20-year military career with the U.S. Army and was a master aviator whose assignments included tours of duty in Korea and Vietnam.

H. TED DAVIS, TEACHER AND SCHOLAR

When H. Ted Davis '59 died May 17 at the age of 71, his friends and colleagues at the University of Minnesota, where he spent his academic career, could not say enough about his contributions to the institution.

Minnesota president Robert H. Bruininks described Davis as "an extraordinary scholar, a revered teacher, and a sage leader who served the [university] and the field of chemical engineering and materials science with remarkable distinction."

After graduating from Furman with a degree in chemistry, Davis earned his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1962. He joined the faculty at Minnesota in 1963 and over the next 46 years served in a variety of roles, among them chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, dean of the Institute of Technology (College of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Mathematics) and, at his death, director of the Biotechnology Institute, where he helped to raise the profile of the university's research in such areas as biofuels and renewable energy.

As department head he was widely admired for his management skills and gracious manner, and he



was credited with building the program into one of the nation's best. As dean he was instrumental in developing and expanding new programs in biomedical engineering, computer engineering and other areas.

Frank Bates, current chemical engineering department head, said that in his role as dean

Davis "brought a terrific combination of respect for excellence and collegiality to a complicated and diverse faculty in an era when everybody talks about interdisciplinarity but few know what it is. He's not just a great faculty member and a great dean, he's a great man."

Davis was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1988, and in 1997 he was named a Regents Professor, the university's highest recognition for faculty excellence. In 2008 he was a member of the first class of inductees into the Minnesota Science and Technology Hall of Fame. He was author or co-author of three textbooks and hundreds of research papers.

Davis was highly regarded for his genuine warmth, sense of humor, fairness and enthusiasm for teaching and research. His wife, Kathy, told the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, "For him, work was like play."

Furman recognized Davis' contributions to academia in 1985 when it elected him an honorary member of the university's Gamma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's leading academic society.