

O B I T U A R Y

Theodore R. Adkins, Jr.

1930 - 1989

Theodore Roosevelt Adkins, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Entomology at Clemson University, died of a heart attack on August 28, 1989. He was born in San Antonio, Texas, December 26, 1930. He grew up in south Georgia finishing West Crisp High School in 1948. He received an Associate Degree in Agriculture from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and then transferred to Auburn University where he received a B.S. degree in Agriculture in 1952. He earned the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in entomology from Auburn University in 1954 and 1958, respectively.

Ted's career spanned 30 plus years, 28 at Clemson University. Dr. Adkins was an authority on medical and veterinary entomology. He had a career-long interest in forensic entomology, which he turned to immediately upon his retirement. As was his custom, he "jumped" into this work with his usual enthusiasm and drive. Within a few months he had built a considerable consulting business with law enforcement and litigation consulting.

At the university he was a dedicated teacher and researcher, but he often cited his students as his greatest accomplishment.

He had a passion and intensity for work that was unsurpassed. He often averaged no more than four to five hours sleep per night. He often remarked that sleeping was a waste of his time.

In 1987, he was presented with the Hatch Act Centennial, Outstanding Research Award, one of two awards presented to an entomologist covering the first 100 years of the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

He was Executive Secretary of the South Carolina Pest Control Association, Editor of the Journal of Agricultural Entomology, a member of ARPE, ESA, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina Entomological Societies and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Dr. Adkins is survived by his wife, Joyce Hartley Adkins; three sons, Randall and Dale of Clemson, SC and Gary of Louisville, KY; his mother, Irma Easom Adkins; and four grandchildren, Wayne, James Randall, Brian and Bobby of Clemson, SC.



S. B. Hays
Clemson, S.C.