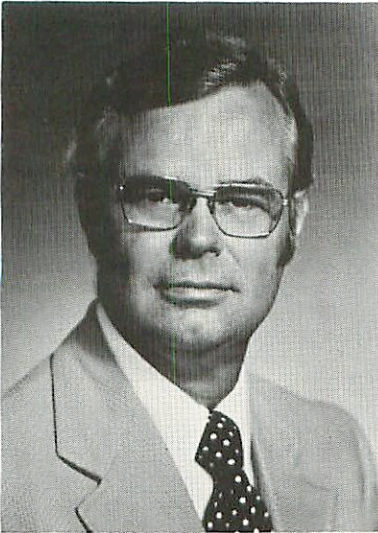


OBITUARY

Kirby L. Hays 1928 - 1983

"A Scholar, a Gentleman, a Friend"



On July 17, 1983, our friend and Branch President, Kirby Hays, died. Kirby had suffered from bone marrow cancer (multiple myeloma) for over three years. During these years the cancer was kept under control through chemotherapy. Although the effects of the medication were, at times, debilitating, Kirby never faltered in meeting his obligations to his family, his church, his profession, and his friends. Until June of this year the chemotherapy had been surprisingly successful. Then in spite of Kirby's strength and determination, and the best medical attention available, the myeloma suddenly accelerated. Kirby was mentally alert and thoughtful of the feelings of others to the very end. In death, as in life, Kirby was an inspiration to all who knew him.

Dr. Kirby L. Hays was born on August 11, 1928, in Cullman County, Alabama. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees at Auburn University in 1948 and 1954 respectively. He received his Ph.D. in 1958 from the University

of Michigan. Except for 2 years with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine (USDA) in Puerto Rico and a tour of duty as a medical entomologist with the U.S. Army in Korea, his entire professional career was spent at Auburn University. He was hired as an assistant professor in the Department of Zoology-Entomology at Auburn in 1957. He was promoted to the rank of associate professor in 1960 and to professor in 1964. In 1975 Kirby was chosen as Head of the Department and remained in that position until October 31, 1982. At that time Kirby returned to a full-time teaching and research position in the Department.

During Kirby's 26-year tenure at Auburn, he distinguished himself as a teacher and a researcher. Through the years he taught 12 different courses ranging from freshman to graduate level. His major teaching emphasis was in medical entomology and animal ecology. He touched the lives of thousands of Auburn students in a very positive way. He directed 14 students to the completion of the Ph.D. and 28 students to completion of master's degrees. His research produced over 70 journal articles and dealt mainly with the imported fire ant and medical and veterinary entomology.

Among Dr. Hays' many contributions to University governance at Auburn were his terms as President of the General Faculty and Chairman of the University Senate.

Kirby was a member of two national scientific societies and served them both well. He was past Treasurer of the Ecological Society of America, and, at his death, he was President of the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America. Also, at the time of his death, he was an elder and Clerk of Session at the First Presbyterian Church of Auburn.

Dr. Hays is survived by his wife, Dean Styles Hays, and two daughters, Jane E. Hays and Melanie L. Hays, both of Auburn, AL; his mother, Mrs. E. T. Conway, Sr., Arab, AL; his father, Charles Hays, Guntersville, AL; a brother, Dr. Sidney Hays, Clemson, SC; and two sisters, Charlene Hawkins of Oneonta, AL, and Louisa Hays of Arab, AL.

Kirby L. Hays was a scholar, a gentleman, and a friend. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

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