

Miami University - Alumni Association

Walter Clement Wilson D. 1909 - retired Professor Industrial Arts - East Tennessee State Teachers College, died at his home in Johnson City, Tennessee, June 30, 1942, aged 79. He had served the Teachers College for 31 years as the head of the Industrial Arts Department and had trained a number of industrial arts teachers for this section of the South. During 1909-10 he was on the staff of the Industrial Arts Department at Miami.

He was the father of Clyde H. Wilson L. 1910, now Professor of Industrial Education at the University of Tennessee and Grace Wilson, (Mrs. John L. Wade) D. 1911, Johnson City, Tennessee.

IOTA LAMBDA SIGMA NEWS

"Daddy" Wilson Passes On

1942
aged 79

Professor Walter Clement Wilson, for 31 years Head of the Department of Industrial Arts at State Teacher's College, Johnson City died suddenly on June 30. He passed away quietly as a result of a heart attack. Within a few hours of his death he had been on the porch of his home and had exchanged light remarks with passing students.

He was 79 years of age and would have attained his 80th birthday on October 9. Surviving are his widow, Sophronia Dyer Wilson, two children by a former marriage, Clyde H. Wilson and Mrs. John L. Wade, and eleven grandchildren of whom he was very proud. His last trip was to attend the wedding of a grandson, James Clement Wilson, in Knoxville recently.

Both of his sons Clyde and Maurice, who died in 1934, received training under their father in methods of Industrial Arts Teaching; Clyde at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio and Maurice at Teachers College, Johnson City.

One of his most prized possessions was a carved walnut plaque presented to him by a number of his former students, together with a volume of letters from individual men who had received their basic training under his direction at Teachers College.

At his retirement from active teaching in May of this year his colleagues on the College faculty presented him with a beautiful upholstered chair at the conclusion of a testimonial dinner where he was the honor guest.

"Daddy" Wilson was a charter member of the Beta Chapter of Iota Lambda Sigma and in the early days was an associate teacher trainer, teaching U. T. extension courses in Job Analysis and Methods. He was a member of the original teacher training group in Tennessee which received instruction under Charles R. (Skipper) Allen in 1922. He attended many of the annual T. and I. conferences of the Southern Region and several of the A. V. A. national meetings.

He was an active member of Kiwanis, a past president of the Johnson City club, served as Lieut. Governor for the Tennessee - Kentucky district, and as District Chairman of Vocational Guidance. He was also a Mason, and a member of a large number of educational organizations, which he had served in various capacities.

Those who knew him were impressed with his sincere and earnest belief in the value of instruction in manipulative skills, that such training was a function of the public schools, and that the curriculum should be broad enough to serve "all the children of all the people". Always energetic, optimistic, affable and interested in people, he had many friends. During more than 50 years in the teaching profession he influenced hundreds of students whose progress he followed on the job. His influence and his ideals will carry on to future generations.

Professor W. C. Wilson Dies

Professor Walter C. Wilson, for 31 years head of the Department of Industrial Arts at the State Teachers College in Johnson City, Tennessee, died suddenly on June 30, 1942 as the result of a heart attack.

He was 79 years of age and had just recently retired from active teaching. Surviving are his widow, Sophronia Dyer Wilson, two children by a former marriage, Clyde H. Wilson and Mrs. John L. Wade and eleven grandchildren. His son Clyde is head of the Department of Industrial Education at the University of Tennessee and received his basic training under his father's direction while on the staff of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Professor Wilson was a pioneer in industrial arts teacher training in Tennessee, having inaugurated the first department in a state institution for training industrial arts teachers in 1911. Alumni from his department are now scattered throughout this section of the South.

In addition to his work as an educator, he was active in civic affairs, having served as president of the Kiwanis Club, Lieutenant-Governor for the Tennessee-Kentucky District of Kiwanis and District Chairman of Vocational Guidance. He was a member of a number of national and state educational organizations in which he had served in various capacities through a long and useful life of service. He will be greatly missed in the annual gatherings of these organizations, but his influence and ideals will carry on.