

Frank K. Gibson

Frank K. Gibson, 64, died on November 28, 1988, while playing tennis with his wife Rose near their retirement home in Titusville, Florida. Frank was born in Morgantown, West Virginia. Following service in World War II, where he was a decorated pilot, he completed his undergraduate and master's degree work at West Virginia University, and also served as an instructor. He completed his doctorate at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 1953 and joined the faculty at the University of Virginia. He came to the University of Georgia first in 1956 and served two years as Director of the Bureau of Public Administration before returning to the University of Virginia. He re-joined the University of Georgia faculty in 1959 until ill health forced his retirement in 1980. After retirement, Frank worked on a part-time basis at the University of Georgia Institute of Government and later at the University of West Florida and the University of Central Florida. He retired from the latter position in 1987.

Frank's contributions were immense. He was an active scholar, from his first publication of a monograph at the Bureau of Public Administration at West Virginia University in 1949 until his last publication in the *Public Administration Review* in 1986. His scholarly interest ranged widely and included criminal justice, local government, public management, and policy analysis. His contribution to developing the graduate program in the department of political science at the University of Georgia was critical. He served as director of graduate studies from 1967 until 1970, and as director of the graduate program in public administration from 1971 until 1975. He directed dissertations for more than 36 students and served on more than 100 doctoral dissertation reading committees in a variety of disciplines. Frank felt great concern for students and took great care in exercising his instructional responsibilities. This facet of his contribution was recognized in 1978 when he received the highest teaching award given in the University of Georgia College of Arts and Sciences. Frank

also had a special gift of relating to practitioners. In all of his academic positions he sought out practitioners and participated in continuing education activities with them. Groups he worked with included numerous federal government agencies, state agencies in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, and city manager associations in Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida.

Frank was the kind of colleague who makes the profession of political science rewarding. He was a warm and generous person who readily dispensed advice when asked and whose incisive views on passing events sprang from a high quality education and as good an integration of lessons from the field of practice and from theory as I have observed. Frank also had a quick wit but was not hesitant about making the needed observation to prick the bubble of a fatuous comment or superficial observation. His life exalted scholarship and infected his colleagues, students, and practitioners with the desire to search for the truth more diligently.

Delmer D. Dunn
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Alpheus Thomas Mason

Editor's Note: Alpheus Mason, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Emeritus at Princeton University, and former vice president of the American Political Science Association, died October 31, 1989 at his home in Princeton after a long illness. He was 90 years old. Mason was a graduate of Dickinson College and received his doctorate from Princeton in 1923. He joined the Princeton faculty in 1925. The following eulogy was delivered at his memorial service by his colleague, Walter F. Murphy.

"Tell me what I ought to know." That was Alph's typical greeting, one he borrowed from Brandeis. He would say it in a jocular tone, but he meant it seriously. He was always eager to learn and eager to pass on to others what he had learned. The corpus of his writing is huge—more

than a hundred articles and 22 books, ranging from slim scholarly monographs to hefty judicial biographies to texts and readers. One of his texts is now in its ninth edition, another its fourth; one of his scholarly books sold so well that it went through three editions; and his monumental biography of Brandeis was a Book-of-the-Month Club Selection and stayed on the best-seller list for five months.

But the quantity and popularity of his work were distant seconds to its quality. If Alpheus Mason did not invent the field of judicial biography, he perfected it. The prizes he won—the American Library Association and the Francis Parkman prizes among others—so testify. The Pulitzer Committee voted his *Harlan Fiske Stone* the award for biography for 1956, but Joseph Kennedy intervened and used his influence to have the decision reversed and the award assigned to the book published under his son's name, *Profiles in Courage*.

Alph once remarked that everything any of us wrote was in some sense autobiographical. Almost a decade ago I heard him read a memorial to his dear friend and former student, Julian Boyd:

He pioneered in a vast, unexplored field, setting standards of meticulous research, painstaking accuracy, and informed judgment which will shine as a beacon in the years ahead. Originality . . . and craftsmanship mark his legacy. . . . His very presence, speech, and literary style, even the timbre and cadence of his voice, spelled *elegance*. Some are dazzled by his English prose, not realizing that he was its master not its slave. Happiness was special, too. He enjoyed in the ancient Greek sense: "the exercise of vital powers along lines of excellence in a life affording them scope."

All of us who knew Julian Boyd recognized that Alph had captured the essence of the man; all of us who knew Alph recognized that he had also captured his own essence, including the happiness he found in 55 years of marriage with Christine. I used to tease him that she was really the author of many of his books. In all seriousness, he would say she was his constant co-author. No one person, he argued, is good enough to