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The *Journal of British Studies* wishes to express its profound regrets over the death, on September 23, 1976, of Willson H. Coates. Professor Coates served with distinction as the first Editor of the *Journal* from its foundation in 1961 to 1970. He brought to the *Journal* such rare qualities as impeccable scholarship, the ability to discern quality, and timeless devotion to his editorial tasks. He set the highest example for his successors.

At the meeting of the Conference on British Studies at New York University on November 6, 1976, the President, Samuel C. McCulloch, paid a tribute to Professor Coates, from which the following remarks are taken:

*It is with deep regret that I report the death of Professor Willson H. Coates last month. Professor Coates was a distinguished teacher and scholar at Rochester University for many years, and a Rhodes Scholar.*

*We remember him best as a long-time member of our Conference and as the founding Editor of our Journal of British Studies. It was my privilege to work closely with him as an Assistant Editor for seven years, and I can attest to the fact that he was a superb Editor who almost instantly gave the Journal not only national, but international, distinction. He was responsible for the first eighteen issues, beginning in May 1961 and ending in May 1970.*

*Professor Coates is survived by his wife Hilda Altschule, a professional artist who designed the cover of the Journal featuring the famous lion which graced the front page of the Journal for fourteen years.*

*The Conference will miss the faithful attendance and wise counsel of Professor Coates at its meetings. The Journal extends deepest sympathies to Professor Coates's widow and family.*

G.B.C.

L.P.C. Jr.

