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Edwardsville Bulletin

To the Faculty, Staff and Students of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Vol. 13, No. 4 April 12, 1982

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM: Earl Lazerson

SUBJECT: Death of Dr. Delyte W. Morris

It is with deep regret and sadness that I report to you the death of Dr. Delyte Wesley Morris, who served as president of Southern Illinois University from 1948 to September 1, 1970.

Dr. Morris died Saturday, April 10 at 11:28 a.m. in the Union County Nursing Home at Anna. He was 74 years of age and had been in nursing home care since December, 1976.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, April 13 at 10 a.m. at Shryock Auditorium on the SIU at Carbondale campus. Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery at Collinsville. No visitation with the family is scheduled. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, of Carbondale; two sons, Peter of Sheperdstown, W. Va. and Michael of Clemson, S.C.; a brother, L. E. Morris of Collinsville; and a sister, Mrs. Howard Jayne of Kirkwood.

The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Dr. Delyte W. Morris Scholarship Fund at either the SIUC or SIUE Foundation.

Recognized as "a master builder of higher education," Dr. Morris guided the growth of SIU from a small teachers college at Carbondale in 1948 to a system which ranked as one of the nation's largest when he retired in 1970.

Dr. Morris gave unselfishly of himself in the early development of SIU at Edwardsville. Much of what we have today is due to his vision and dedicated leadership.

In April, 1979, the campus mall was named the Delyte W. Morris Quadrangle, and the inscription on a bronze plaque embedded on the quadrangle reads: "In recognition of the accomplishments of Delyte W. Morris, eighth president of SIU, 1948-1970--from his inspiration we take renewed resolve."

I can think of no better way of expressing our respect for the memory of Dr. Morris than to rededicate ourselves to the ideals that were his objectives for SIU: "To exalt beauty, to advance learning, to forward ideas and ideals, and to become a center of order and light, that knowledge may lead to understanding and understanding to wisdom."

This University will always stand as a monument to Dr. Morris' dedication, his energy, his imagination, and his devotion to service.