
10-24-1969

Dean Woodbridge, 73 Dies Here Monday

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/dwoodbridge2

Copyright c 1969 by the authors. This article is brought to you by the William & Mary Law School Scholarship Repository. https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/dwoodbridge2
Dean Woodbridge, 73 Dies Here Monday

Dr. Dudley Warner Woodbridge, 73, dean emeritus of the College of William and Mary's Marshall-Wythe School of Law, died Monday in Williamsburg Community Hospital.

Dr. Woodbridge was named dean of the college's department of jurisprudence and law school in 1950, and was appointed dean of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law when the school was renamed in 1953.

He retired as Law School dean in 1962, after 35 years of active teaching at William and Mary and took with him the reputation as one of William and Mary's most respected teachers.

Dr. Woodbridge joined the faculty in 1927 as an assistant professor of law when the law school was unaccredited and, over the years, helped to build the institution into one that is nationally recognized.

A native of Belleair, O., Dr. Woodbridge was raised in Seattle, Wash., and received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Illinois. He was the son of George Morgan Woodbridge and Julia Warner Woodbridge.

Upon his retirement in 1962, the college's board of directors appointed Dr. Woodbridge dean emeritus of the law school.

He served as editor of Virginia Bar Notes for more than 20 years and published law review notes and articles in a number of legal journals.

In 1950, Life magazine named Dr. Woodbridge one of America's eight "great teachers." He received the college's Sullivan Award and was the first recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award, given for personal and professional achievement. He was a member of the Order of the Colf, Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa.

Dr. Woodbridge took an active interest in youngsters in the community and taught many how to ride bicycles, ice skate and play tennis. A bicycling enthusiast, he didn't own a car but preferred to cycle about the college campus and city.

He and Mrs. Woodbridge made their home close to the William and Mary campus at 118 Griffin Ave.

Dr. Woodbridge was a member of the American Assn. of University Professors, American Bar Assn., American Judicature Society, American Law Institute, Phi Alpha Delta, Tau Kappa Delta, Loyal Order of Moose, Virginia Social Science Assn., and the Kings Daughters and Sons.

Dr. Woodbridge is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ruby Belle Mendenhall Woodbridge; two sons, Dr. Hensley Charles Woodbridge of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill., and William L. Woodbridge of Williamsburg; one daughter, Mrs. Julia W. Oxscider; one sister, Mrs. Julia W. People of Chattanooga, Tenn., and four grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Wednesday in the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church with burial in Cedar Grove Cemetery. Dr. John Grey, pastor, officiated.

The family requested that contributions be made to the Dean Dudley Woodbridge Endowment Fund at William and Mary or to the Marshall-Wythe law library.


Honorary pallbearers were former students, faculty members and Virginia judges.