

mere assemblings of facts and footnotes but were based on his honest feeling for true human achievement in any age.

In addition to his writing, his legacy will remain the work of the Press itself and his own strength of character. Joe combined in one person both the artistic and business skills requisite to keep a shop going. His was one of only two major letterpress printing firms from the 1920s to survive into the 1970s.

Age did not diminish his mental powers. In his retirement years, he and Ann welcomed young printers and designers into their home for pleasant visits about printing or gardening or politics, food or family or fame. They thus kept in touch with the current world of books and printing. But in the process Joe was also handing on his knowledge and traditions to the next generation, always generous in the giving of ideas as well as of books and other gifts.

Joe's most direct contributions to AAS were at least two. He was a mentor to Roderick Stinehour, the Society's principal printer, and he gave Isaiah Thomas a relatively long and certainly strong plug in *The Printed Book in America*, which had a large circulation.

Upon accepting membership in AAS, Blumenthal wrote then-president John Jeppson: 'When your Isaiah Thomas, late in life, was honored by members of his craft, he closed with the words, "My attachment to the art of which we are professors is not diminished. Could I live my life over again and choose my employment, it would be that of printer." To which I may add, Amen.'

Darrell Hyder

OTTO VINCENT GUSTAFSON

Otto Vincent Gustafson died on February 20, 1989, at the age of eighty-two. He was elected to AAS in 1982 and served on the Committee on Finance and the Worcester County Committee of the Society's Isaiah Thomas fund drive. He never missed a meeting

during the seven productive years of his membership, and he enthusiastically and liberally supported AAS. He felt deeply honored to be a member.

Vinny was born in Worcester, attended its public schools, and graduated as a mechanical engineer from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. For his labors and generosity to this institution, he later received the Robert Goddard Award, the Stephen Salisbury Award, and, ultimately, the accolade of an honorary doctorate in engineering.

His business career was varied and interesting. His knowledge of the use of industrial diamond tools, the fabrication of high carbon wire, and the formation of metal stampings was unparalleled and led to his management or ownership of several companies. These included Lundquist Tool and Manufacturing Company, Lutco Bearings, Inc., New England High Carbon Wire Company, and Koebel Diamond Tool Company. He was also a director of a number of other firms, including Guaranty Bank and Trust Company, where he served as chairman of its trust committee.

Though successful as an industrialist and entrepreneur, Vinny was a many-faceted man with a variety of hobbies. Because of his own Scandinavian heritage, his interest in American history took the form of studying the first colony of Swedes who landed in Delaware in 1638. He later concentrated on individuals such as the engineer Christopher Polhelm, Kahn, the botanist, and John Ericsson, inventor of the screw propeller and designer of the *Monitor*. Vinny was a governor of the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, overseer of Old Sturbridge Village, and in Worcester was active in the Historical Museum and Historic Preservation Society.

Every good cause in the community of Worcester received the support of this quiet, friendly, gentle man. His ability was recognized by those who elected and selected him for such posts as chairman of Fairlawn Hospital's board, vice-president of the Worcester County Music Association, trustee of the Worcester vocational school system, and a director of the Worcester Community Chest.

In spite of the energy and enthusiasm that Vinny applied to so many worthwhile things, he seemed to always have time to spend with friends and members of younger generations. His devotion to his wife and two daughters and their families was lovely to see.

O. Vincent Gustafson, or Vinny as his friends called him, will be greatly missed for his deep knowledge of his community, his great generosity, and the warm friendship shared with so many of us.

John Jeppson

JAMES DAVID HART

James David Hart was born in San Francisco, California, on April 18, 1911, the son of Julien and Helen Louise (Newstadter) Hart. After attending local schools, Jim (as he was called by almost everyone) attended Stanford University (A.B., 1932). He took an M.A. and the Ph.D. degree in English at Harvard in 1936 and was appointed instructor in English the same year at the University of California, Berkeley. The University of California remained his academic home until his death, though he served more than the Department of English in his long and fruitful career. He was made a full professor in 1951, led his department as chairman for two separate tours (1955-57; 1956-69) and between this duty served as vice-chancellor for three years (1957-60). In 1969, he became director of the Bancroft Library, a post he held until his death on July 23, 1990.

This record suggests that Jim Hart had energy and that he was admired at Berkeley. Of course, he had much more than energy, and he was admired in literary circles and by librarians, bookmen, students, colleagues, and many more in a variety of fields. He was twenty-three years old, a doctoral candidate at Harvard, when after browsing of a morning in second-hand bookshops in Manhattan, he happened to walk by the offices of Oxford University Press. He had been thinking of a new book and, apparently on impulse, walked into the offices of the Press and announced that

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.