

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

he had an idea for a book. The idea was that Oxford should publish an 'Oxford Companion to American Literature,' a volume that would do for the American field what *The Oxford Companion to English Literature*, published in 1932, did for the English. The director of the press, Sir Geoffrey Cumberledge, liked the idea, but understandably wanted to see a sample of Hart's work before giving him the assignment. Jim had none with him, but working with speed that night in his room in the Waldorf-Astoria he wrote essays on Emerson, Richard Henry Dana, and others for Sir Geoffrey's inspection the next morning. Speed was essential, for Sir Geoffrey was sailing for Europe that day. Hart's work passed the test, and Oxford signed him up. *The Oxford Companion to American Literature* appeared in 1941. It was in its fifth edition when he died.

This was a beginning. In the years afterwards, Hart wrote *A Companion to California*, also published by Oxford (1978) and works on Robert Louis Stevenson, Frank Norris, popular books, Western history, and printing, among many others. These studies and editions reveal something of his tastes and activities: he was a bookman, a literary historian, a critic, and a fine printer. He was also a splendid teacher of graduate students and undergraduates, a popular lecturer, a favorite of scholars and laymen alike.

In 1969, Hart accepted the directorship of the Bancroft Library. When he took over the Bancroft, its great strength lay in its Hispanic collections, especially the borderlands. Hart expanded these collections and made the Bancroft an important repository of British and American materials. He also added to the California and western collections of documents and rare books. During his tenure, the library acquired the papers of William Saroyan and Henry J. Kaiser, among others of importance.

Jim Hart also served on a variety of boards, commissions, and committees outside the University and the Bancroft. He sat on the board of Mills College for many years, including three years as the board's president. Because of his efforts on behalf of British poetry, he was awarded the Order of the British Empire. Other honors came to him as well, including election to the American Academy

of Arts and Sciences, and, in 1970, he was elected to membership in the American Antiquarian Society. He never got to any of the Society's meetings, but always seemed to be interested in its work.

Jim was an elegant, tall, handsome man, possessed of excellent taste. He was a raconteur, a gourmet, a wine taster. He loved to entertain people and his hospitality was legendary. Marcus McCorison, the president and librarian of AAS, recounted one such typical incident: 'One time when I was in San Francisco, late one day I telephoned Jim. He urged me to come out to Berkeley, which I then did on the BART. He met me at the subway station and took me up to the house, where we had a wonderful dinner. Then, he urged me to spend the night. I agreed. Next morning, he lent me a shirt so that I had a clean shirt to put on for the day's appointments. He just was that kind of warm and generous person.'

Hart married Ruth Arnstein in 1938; they had two children, a daughter, Carol Helen (Mrs. John L. Field), and a son, Peter David. Ruth Hart died in 1977. Jim married again and is survived by his second wife, the former Constance Crowley Bowles, his children, and four grandchildren.

Robert Middlekauff

FRANK LEIGHTON HARRINGTON, SR.

Frank Leighton Harrison, Sr., an exemplary member of the American Antiquarian Society, died in Worcester on April 21, 1988, at the age of eighty-six. He was born in the city on January 17, 1902, the son of Frank C. and Leora Leighton Harrington. He was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy (class of 1920) and Dartmouth College, where he gained election, in his junior year, to Phi Beta Kappa and graduated magna cum laude ('24). He then earned a law degree from Harvard University ('27). Later in life, he received honorary degrees from Dartmouth and Worcester's Assumption College.

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