

Paul L. McKeegan

March 20, 1912 — January 2, 1983

Paul McKeegan never went to college. But in all respects he was an educated man—articulate, urbane, and gracious.

For forty-seven years he was on the staff of Cornell. In 1930 he started as an assistant treasurer, then moved successively to the cashier's office and the accounting office, and then in 1956 was brought directly into association with the president of the University as director of the budget, in which position he served three Cornell presidents.

In this latter capacity he conferred with all of the University administrators and faculty members with cognizance over the annual budget allocations, working with them on their needs, their ambitions for future resources, and the immediacy of their specific annual requirements.

He was a good listener, he had an infectious chuckle, and he was imaginative in finding alternative means to attain desired objectives. He worked closely with the succession of University presidents, reporting his negotiations and asking for guidance. Thus he soon became a major source of advice on the whole range of financial problems facing the University.

His congeniality and warm hospitality made his home a center of convivial entertainment for trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and alumni. And many are the happy memories of those who gathered with him in his home about the piano with his exuberant wife, Dot, singing all the songs of the early decades of the century, his tenor voice urging all the guests and his family to join in, tuned by good food, good fellowship, and his particular mix of “martunis.”

He was also a devoted golfer, his “fearless foursome,” composed normally of Norm Moore, C. E. Treman, and Paul O’Leary, playing Sunday mornings through many a year.

He found time, too, to participate in community affairs and held membership in a wide variety of organizations.

So, in this memorial we hail a great builder of Cornell, a tireless worker—and a great and loyal friend.

Dale R. Corson, Norman S. Moore, Deane W. Malott