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Recommended Citation
Wallace, Leon H., "Hugh E. Willis, Former Faculty Member, Dies at 91" (1967). Hugh Willis (1942-1943 Acting). Paper 1. http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/willis/1

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Hugh E. Willis, Former Faculty Member, Dies At 91

This memorial resolution for Prof. Hugh E. Willis was written for the Faculty Council of Indiana University by Prof. Leon H. Wallace. An abridged version follows.

In the death on January 25, 1967, of Hugh Evander Willis, in Bloomington, Indiana, Indiana University lost one of its finest teachers and scholars of another era.

Hugh Willis was born and spent his early boyhood at Stratton, Vermont. When his parents moved to Yankton, South Dakota, he completed his grade school and high school training in the local schools, and then attended Yankton College, from which he received his Bachelor and Master of Arts Degrees.

He then enrolled in the University of Minnesota Law School and subsequently earned both Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws degrees. On receiving his Master's Degree he was invited to join the law faculty of the University of Minnesota where he taught for nine years. During this period he married Esther DeCoster. Mrs. Willis died December 30, 1955. After leaving Minnesota, Professor Willis served two years as Dean and Professor of Law at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, followed by five years as Dean and Professor of Law at the University of North Dakota. From there he came to Indiana University where he taught continuously until his retirement in 1945, having served as Acting Dean during the academic year 1942-43. He was a teacher whose goal was not only to teach but more importantly to inspire in his students a desire to learn for themselves, and to reach out beyond the frontiers of the immanent. He demanded excellence and most of his students were subsequently grateful that he had. Although many of his new students were awed by him, they left with genuine affection for him.

Professor Willis worked with bar associations for many years on the reform of legal procedure and the formulation of higher standards for admission to practice. His "Introduction to Anglo-American Law" initiated many a beginning law student into the history and philosophy of the law. His treatise, "Constitutional Law of the United States," has been the leading authority on constitutional interpretation in the courts of India.

Faculty Activities Are Many and Varied

William B. Harvey, Dean of the School of Law, has been elected to the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools for 1967-68, joining representatives of five other law schools on the committee.

His selection was announced by Michael H. Cardozo, executive director of the Association, Washington, D.C.

W. Howard Mann, professor of law, was invited to Washington, D.C. to witness the signing of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution pertaining to presidential succession.

The amendment was sponsored by Indiana's Senator Birch E. Bayh, '61, one of Professor Mann's former students of constitutional law.

F. Reed Dickerson was invited by President Johnson to attend the swearing-in ceremonies for Miss Betty Furness, special assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs, at the White House on Monday, May 1, 1967. Prof. Dickerson cooperated with the President's Committee on Consumer Interests when he had his seminar in legislation at the Law School develop a position paper for the Committee. The professor and his students were congratulated with a letter, written by Mrs. Esther Peterson, Miss Furness's predecessor, entered into the Congressional Record by Indiana Senator Vance Hartke.

Seating Bayh At 10th Law Day

Indiana Senator Birch Bayh announced he will open his assault on the Electoral College with Senate hearings in the near future.

Senator Bayh, who is chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, disclosed the hearing dates in a Law Day speech.

The House lawmaker is author of a proposed constitutional amendment to scrap the indirect electoral system of electing the President and Vice President. He is seeking to permit the people to elect their highest political officers by direct vote, with the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes declared the winners.

Sharing the spotlight with Bayh were students and faculty recognized for special honors at the Law Day program.

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Your Law Alumni Association Needs Your Support — Join Today!

(Attend The Annual Law Banquet)

The total enrollment approached 500 last September with the largest beginning class in the history of the School. Fifty one different colleges and universities were represented in the freshman class.

The architect's final drawing for the proposed new law center in Indianapolis is rapidly nearing completion. Although some property remains to be acquired, the University's Land Purchasing Office in Indianapolis is preparing to utilize the recent bill passed by the 1967 General Assembly providing for condemnation proceedings to implement the acquisition of the necessary land. Groundbreaking in late fall of 1967 is a distinct possibility.

The first issue of a law journal, with complete editorial responsibility by our student body, will go to press shortly.
Annual Banquet Set For June 10

Judge S. Hugh Dillin To Be Toastmaster

The Annual Law Alumni Banquet will be held on Saturday, June 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Solarium of the Indiana Memorial Union on the Bloomington campus. Toastmaster for the affair, which annually draws hundreds of Law alumni back to campus, is Judge S. Hugh Dillin. Both William B. Harvey, dean of the Law School at Bloomington, and Cleon H. Foust, acting dean of the Law School at Indianapolis, will be in attendance.

Both deans will deliver reports of activities which are of interest to all alumni, according to Richard E. Aitken, '55, president of the School of Law Alumni Association.

The event this year is expected to exceed the record crowd of over 300 alumni who attended the dinner last year. Among those being honored at the affair will be Prof. Austin V. Clift, retiring after many years as a member of the faculty in Bloomington.

This year the law classes of 1917, 1927, 1942 and 1957 will have reunions and receive special recognition.

To law grads, the Alumni Banquet is the highlight of a weekend that also includes the Alumni Institute programs, the annual meeting of the general Alumni Association at the Commencement Barbecue, the reception of President and Mrs. Stahr for parents and graduates, and a variety of other activities.

Student Bar Assn. Elects For '67-'68

Jan Chalfant of Ridgeville, a junior in the School of Law, has been elected president of the campus Student Bar Association for 1967-68.

Named with Chalfant were Martell Rojer, Hammond, vice president; John B. Gardiner, Indianapolis, secretary-treasurer; Malcolm Metzler, Indianapolis, senior class representative on the board of officers, and James E. Freeman, Jr., Anderson, junior class representative.

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Professor Willis also was active in the formulation of the American Law Institute’s Restatement of the Law of Contracts, and prepared the Indiana annotations for that Restatement.

Aside from the law, Professor Willis’ other great interest was in the game of golf and for several years he served as coach of the University’s golf team.

After Mrs. Willis’ death, Professor Willis left Bloomington and spent some years in Virginia and later in Florida. For a time he returned to the campus and lived in the Union Building, but spent the last years of his life in Winter Park and Orlando, Florida.