GLENN LEGGETT
Grinnell

March 29, 1918-June 2, 2003

Glenn Leggett was born March 29, 1918 in
Ashtabula, Ohio. The eldest of five children, his
parents were Celinda Sheldon Leggett and
Glenn H. Leggett. Leggett graduated from
Ashtabula High School in
1936. He received his A.B. degree from
Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont,
in 1940, and his M.A. from The Ohio State
University in 1941. In 1942-43, he was an
instructor in English and History at the
Massachusetts Institute of Technology until
he entered the U.S. Navy. In 1946, Leggett
returned to Ohio State where he received his Ph.D. in
1949. He taught at
Ohio State until 1952 when he joined the
Department of English at the University of
Washington in Seattle. In 1963, he became
Provost there, a position he held until
1965, when he left to become President and
Professor of English at Grinnell
College.

At UW and continuing at Grinnell, Leggett
earned a reputation for his writing and
his commitment to educational organiza-
tions. He is the author and editor of sev-
eral books for writing and literature
courses, including the widely used Prentice-Hall
Handbook for Writers, which first
appeared in 1951 and is now in its twelfth
edition, and Twelve Poets, published in
1957. A selection of papers relating to his
tenure at Grinnell College from 1965 to
1975 is entitled Years of Turmoil, Years of
Change. A number of his essays on education
are included in his Teacher to

Over his long and distinguished career,
Leggett served as chairman of the National
Conference on College Composition and
Communication, the College Section of the
National Council of the Teachers of
English, the Council's Task Force on
Career Education, and the College
Entrance Examination Board. He served as
president of the Iowa Association of
Private Colleges and Universities and the
Iowa College Foundation, and as chairman of the Associated Colleges of the
Midwest. He was a trustee of Marycrest
College in Davenport, Iowa, and a curator
of Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri.
He was a life member of the Modern Lan-
guage Association. He also served as a
director of General Telephone of the
Midwest from 1971 to 1975.

A recipient of numerous honors and
distinctions, Leggett held an honorary
Litt.D. degree from Lawrence University,
honorary L.H.D. degree from Ripon,
Rockford, and Grinnell Colleges and the
College of Idaho, and honorary L.L.D.
degree from Middlebury and Morningside
Colleges. In 1979, he was a recipient of
the Edward S. Noyes Award for
Distinguished Service to the College
Board. He was elected to the Ashtabula
High School Hall of Fame in 2001.

After leaving Grinnell College in 1975,
Leggett became Vice President of
Corporate Communications for Deere &
Company, Moline, Illinois. He retired from
that position in 1979, was named
President Emeritus of Grinnell College in
the same year and returned to live in
Grinnell. He then became active in many
civic organizations. A Congregationalist,
Leggett was appointed a director of
Mayflower Homes, Inc. in 1983, and served as
its president from 1986-88. He was also a
director of the Mayflower Foundation,
serving as its president in 1991-92. He is
the author of the Grinnell UCC
Congregational Church History. From
1966-91, he was a member of the Board of
Trustees of Stewart Public Library in
Grinnell, serving as the Board's president
in 1987-88. He was also a member of the
Grinnell Senior Chamber of Commerce,
The Frightnight Club, and the Grinnell
Kiwanis Club.

An ardent conservationist, Mr. Leggett
was a founding trustee and advisor of the
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. In
1982-83, he was a member of the State of
Iowa's Natural Resources Council. He was
also a member of Trout Unlimited, Ducks
Unlimited, the Audubon Society, the
Nature Conservancy, the Isaac Walton
League, and Pheasants Forever.

In 1941, he married Doris James, who
died in 1971. In 1973, he married Russelle
Seaberg Jones. Glenn Leggett is
survived by his wife Russelle, his four
daughters, Leslie Leonard, Susan Jones,
Celinda Conrad, and Joanna Stenwall; his
stepson Brian Jones, and stepdaughter
Sarah Jones Krumm, as well as five
sons-in-law, David Leonard, Michael
Jones, Curtis Conrad, Alan Stenwall, and
Timothy Krumm. He is also survived by
thirteen grandchildren, eleven great
grandchildren, and his sister, Joanne
Miner of Pocatello, Idaho.

Leggett was an avid fly fisherman, bird
hunter, and book collector. He enjoyed
writing personal essays about hunting and
fishing, family, mends, his Labradors,
travel, and literature. A man of will,
generosity, tenderness, and intelligence,
he cherished his family and many friends.

A memorial service will be held at 2
p.m. on Saturday, June 7th at the United
Church of Christ - Congregational, 4th and
Broad Street in Grinnell. In lieu of flowers,
memorials may be made to Grinnell
College and the Iowa Natural Heritage
Foundation.
Leggett, president emeritus of Grinnell College, dead at 85

Glenn Leggett, 85, president emeritus of Grinnell College, died Monday, June 2, 2003 at Mayflower Health Care Center.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 7, at 2 p.m. at the United Church of Christ-Congregational, Fourth Avenue and Broad St. Memorials may be made to Grinnell College or the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation.

He was born March 29, 1918, in Ashtabula, Ohio, the eldest of five children of Glenn H. and Celinda Sheldon Leggett. He graduated from Ashtabula High School in 1936 and received the bachelor of arts degree from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., in 1940 and master of arts degree from the Ohio State University in 1941.

In 1942-43 he was an instructor in English and history at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology until he entered the United States Navy. In 1946, Leggett returned to Ohio State where he received his doctor of philosophy degree in 1949. He taught at Ohio State until 1952 when he joined the Department of English at the University of Washington in Seattle. In 1963, he became provost there, a position he held until 1965, when he left to become president and professor of English at Grinnell College.

At the University of Washington and continuing at Grinnell, Leggett earned a reputation for his writing and his commitment to educational organizations. He is the author and editor of several books for writing and literature courses, including the widely used "Prentice-Hall Handbook for Writers" which first appeared in 1951 and now is in its 12th edition, and "Twelve Poets," published in 1958. A selection of papers relating to his tenure at Grinnell College from 1965 to 1975 is entitled "Years of Turmoil, Years of Change." A number of his essays on education are included in his "Teacher to Teacher," published in 1979.

Over his long and distinguished career, Leggett served as chairman of the National Conference on College Composition and Communication, the college section of the National Council of Teachers of English, the council's task force on career education and the College Entrance Examination Board.

He served as president of the Iowa Association of Private Colleges and Universities and the Iowa College Foundation and as chairman of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. He was a trustee of Marycrest College.

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in Davenport and curator of Stephens College, Columbia, Mo. He was a life member of the Modern Language Association.

He also served as director of General Telephone of the Midwest from 1971 to 1975.

A recipient of numerous honors and distinctions, Leggett held an honorary Litt.D. degree from Lawrence University, honorary L.H.D. degrees from Ripon, Rockford and Grinnell Colleges and the College of Idaho and honorary L.L.D. degrees from Middlebury and Morningside Colleges. In 1979, he was a recipient of the Edward S. Noyes Award for Distinguished service to the College Board. He was elected to the Ashtabula High School Hall of Fame in 2001.

After leaving Grinnell College in 1975, Leggett became vice president of corporate communications for Deere & Company, Moline, Ill. He retired from that position in 1979, was named president emeritus of Grinnell College that same year and returned to live in Grinnell.

He then became active in many civic organizations. A Congregationalist, Leggett was appointed a director of Mayflower Homes Inc. in 1983 and served as its president from 1986 to 1988. He also was a director of the Mayflower Foundation, serving as its president in 1991-92. He is the author of the Grinnell UCC-Congregational Church History. From 1985 to 1991 he was a member of the board of trustees of Stewart Public Library, serving as its president in 1987-1988.

He was a member of the Grinnell Senior Chamber of Commerce, the Fortnightly Club and the Grinnell Kiwanis Club.

An ardent conservationist, Leggett was a founding trustee and advisor of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. In 1982-83, he was a member of the State of Iowa's Natural Resources Council. He also was a member of Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, the Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the Izaac Walton League and Pheasants Forever.

In 1941, he married Doris James, who died in 1971. In 1973 he married Ruthelle Seeberger Jones. He is survived by his wife Ruthelle, his four daughters, Leslie Leonard, Susan Jones, Celinda Conrad and Joanna Sinnwell; his stepson Brian Jones and stepdaughter Sarah Jones Krumm, as well as five sons-in-law, David Leonard, Michael Jones, Curtis Conrad, Alan Sinnwell and Timothy Krumm. He also is survived by 13 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and his sister Joanne Miner of Pocatello, Idaho.

Leggett was an avid fly fisherman, bird hunter and book collector. He enjoyed writing personal essays about hunting and fishing, family, friends, his Labradors, travel and literature. A man of wit, generosity, tenderness and intelligence, he cherished his family and many friends.