

Hippocrates Apostle, Aristotle translator, dies of cancer at 80

Hippocrates G. Apostle, 80, professor emeritus of mathematics and philosophy at Grinnell College, died of cancer at his home Wednesday, July 18.

An internationally recognized scholar of Aristotle, Apostle recently published a translation of Aristotle's "Poetics," the ninth book in a series of systematic translations of Aristotle's works. The work was completed with Elizabeth Dobbs, associate professor of English, and Morris Parslow, professor of French, both of Grinnell College.

Apostle previously translated Aristotle's "Metaphysics," "Physics," "Categories and Propositions," "Posterior Analytics," "On the Soul," "Nicomachean Ethics" and, with Lloyd Gerson, "Selected Works" and "Politics." The translations, published by Peripatetic Press, have been praised for their clarity and their literal and accurate reflection of Aristotle's ideas.

Although Apostle achieved renown for his work on Aristotle, he did not begin to translate the philosopher's writings until he was 53 years old. Apostle earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in mathematics at Columbia University, then studied philosophy at the University of Chicago. It was there that he became entranced by Aristotle and, at the urging

of his classmates, vowed to someday translate the philosopher's major works.

Apostle went on to receive a Lic. en Phil. in philosophy from Laval University in Canada and earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in philosophy at Harvard. He then taught mathematics and philosophy at West Virginia Wesleyan College, Rochester University, Amherst College and the University of Chicago. He joined the Grinnell College faculty in 1948, and in 1955 was named professor of mathematics and philosophy. In 1961 he was named Myra Steele professor of mathematics at Grinnell. He gave up his mathematics courses in 1968 and continued to teach philosophy until 1978 when he was awarded emeritus status.

His first translation of Aristotle's "Metaphysics" was published in 1967. His most recent translation, of "Physics," was published in April of this year.

Born in Tyrnavos, Greece, Apostle moved with his family to New York when he was 12 years old. As a guest of the Greek government, Apostle returned to his home country to deliver a paper at the international congress in Thessaloniki honoring the 2,300th anniversary of Aristotle's death. He received a medal from the Greek government and was commended by Greek President Constantine Tsatsos.

A member of the American Philosophical Association, the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America, Apostle was listed in "Who's Who in America," "Who's Who in American Education" and "American Men of Science."

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; three stepchildren, Stephen Grow of Kansas City, Susan Edenberg of Indianapolis and Thomas Grow of Marinette, Wis.; and a sister, Alice Zuvekas of Joplin, Mo.

A memorial service will be held on the Grinnell campus at a later date.



Hippocrates Apostle

H. George Apostle

A memorial service for Hippocrates George Apostle will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at Herrick Chapel on the Grinnell College Campus.

Participating in the service will be Dennis Haas, William Carroll, Ralph Luebben and Gerald Lalonde. Music will be provided by Anthony and Margaret Lucia.

Private family services will be held at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Apostle, professor emeritus of mathematics and philosophy at Grinnell College and an internationally recognized scholar of Aristotle, died on July 18 at his home in Grinnell.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; three stepchildren, Stephen Warren Grow of Prairie View, Kan., Susan Grow Edenberg of Indianapolis, Ind., and Thomas Robert Grow of Marinette, Wis.; four step-grandchildren; and one sister, Alice Zuvekas of Joplin, Mo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Aspasia Tzartanos Apostle; and one brother, Basil George Apostle.