

Former Resident Dies in California

Grinnell friends have received word of the death of a former Grinnellian, **Raymond Davis Harriman**, June 1 at Los Gatos, California. **1972**

The deceased was born in Grinnell and received his high school and college education here. He was graduated from Grinnell College in the class of 1909.

His father was A. C. Harriman, an early-day city clerk in Grinnell.

The following account of his life and death in California is from the daily newspaper at Palo Alto, California:

Emeritus Prof. Raymond Davis Harriman, retired head of the Stanford University Classics Department and a former trustee of the Palo Alto Unified School District, died Wednesday at a Los Gatos convalescent hospital after an illness of several months. He was 83.

Harriman joined the Stanford faculty in 1930 and was named head of the department in 1937. He retired in 1953 to part-time teaching and writing, at which time he moved from his home in the 1300 block of Lincoln Avenue, Palo Alto, to Walnut Creek.

Harriman was elected to the school board in 1945 by a 2 to 1 margin over his single opponent, during which he advocated a greater emphasis on teaching fundamental subjects as opposed to "Progressive education." He served until 1950 when he stepped down because of his pending retirement from Stanford.

He was a native of Grinnell, Iowa, and graduated in 1909 from Grinnell College. He received a master's degree in 1914 from the University of Wisconsin, and his doctorate there a year later.

He was instructor of ancient languages from 1917 to 1922 at the University of Utah.

He became assistant professor at Utah in 1922 and associate professor in 1928, then moved to Stanford in 1930 and became a full professor in 1934.

He was a strong advocate of teaching language in grade school as a "Living thing," stressing its importance in the growth of the student's capabilities.

He was active in Stanford and community affairs.

During World War II he organized the special Army training and reclassification group at Stanford—the largest such training unit at any college or university.

He was a member of the American Philological Association and a past president of the Philological Association of the Pacific Coast and a member of other professional

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groups.

Harriman is survived by his wife, Mary Ruth Harriman of Los Gatos; a son, John M. Harriman of Los Gatos; a daughter, Mrs. Jo Ann Brown of Albuquerque, N. M.; and by six grandchildren.

Private funeral services were held today in Los Gatos at the Chapel of the Hills mortuary.

Back To Old Grinnell — 6-4-1959
A Sentimental Journey

When Raymond Davis Harriman of Stanford, Calif., returns to Grinnell this coming weekend for the 50th reunion of the Grinnell College class of 1909, his coming will awaken memories for many older townspeople.

Born in Grinnell on June 6, 1888, Harriman, who became a distinguished classical scholar and served actively on the Stanford University faculty for 25 years, was the son of Augustus C. and Kate Davis Harriman.

Father Was City Clerk

His father, "Gus" Harriman, served as city clerk from 1907 until 1923, when he was succeeded by Homer Lowrey, whose own long tenure in that office is just ending.

Before becoming city clerk, Gus Harriman ran a little store, "The Hub," well remembered by high-schoolers of the time who shopped there. It was located in the Broad St. block between Fourth Ave. and Commercial St., opposite Central Park.

Raymond's mother, Kate, of the class of 1875 at the college, was a member of the Davis family whose name is perpetuated in the Davis School. Built in 1918, it was named for his two aunts, Lizzie and Edna, long-time teachers in the early Grinnell schools.

His sister, Jessie Harriman Schuyler Heald, now of Oakland, Calif., is also well remembered in Grinnell. An 1899 graduate of the college's School of Music, she gave private piano lessons here for many years. She was married to David Schuyler, and their son Clare, now also of Oakland, attended the college in the class of 1927.

After Mr. Schuyler's death, she married Henry H. Heald, who died in 1956. The family moved to California about 30 years ago.

Honorary Degree

Raymond Harriman will be returning to the college not only for his class reunion but also as one chosen to be given an honorary degree at Commencement exercises Sunday afternoon. He will receive a doctorate of humane letters as a noted son of the college and of this community.

After receiving his B.A. from Grinnell, Harriman took his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Wisconsin and was a fellow of the American Academy in Rome in 1915-16. He married Mary Ruth Martin, and they had two children, John and Joan.

He began teaching in Muscatine (Ia.) high school, serving for three years before doing his graduate work at Wisconsin where he was also a teaching assistant. From 1917 until 1926 he was a member of the University of Utah faculty in ancient languages, then went to Stanford to teach classics until his retirement in 1953.

He headed the Stanford classics department from 1937 on was chairman of the School of Letters for two years and the School of Humanities for one served as acting dean in 1947-48 and was coordinator of military programs at the university for several years.

He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and other honorary and professional societies.