
In Memoriam

Thomas P. Field (1914–1990)

Tom Field, our longtime friend and colleague at the University of Kentucky, died November 13, 1990, at his home in Lexington after a long bout with cancer. He was 76. Tom was in the Geography Department from 1948 until his retirement in 1982. He taught and did research in the populations, settlement, and cartography of many areas, but his special interests were Kentucky and Australia. He was stationed with the US Navy in Perth, Australia, during World War II, and it was there that he met and married his wife, Nancie.

Tom was born in Waynesville, Pennsylvania, on June 6, 1914. His degrees were from East Tennessee State University, George Peabody College in Nashville, and the University of North Carolina (Ph.D., 1948). He will be remembered for *A Guide to Kentucky Place Names* (1961; revised second edition to be published in 1991), which lists 40,000 names of Kentucky cultural and physical geographic features. He was also a major contributor of maps to *Kentucky: A Pictorial History* (ed. J. Winston Coleman, 1971) and of text and maps to the *Atlas of Kentucky* (ed. P. P. Karan and Cotton Mather, 1977). Tom was an organizing member of the Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers, which in 1981 accorded him an honorary life membership. He was also active in the American Name Society, the American Association of Geographers, the Nature Conservancy, and the Kentucky Historical Society. He was an advisor to the US Census Bureau, was on the Kentucky Advisory Committee on Names to the US Board on Geographic Names. He was also active in local affairs and wrote many articles for local publications which addressed population, social, and educational aspects of the Lexington metropolitan area. Tom was often quoted by the local media regarding such questions.

Tom Field was a major participant in the establishment of the University's important postwar "general studies" program and, most especially, in the development of a course called "Societies Around the World" and participated in the evolution and preparation of a two-volume text by the same title, published in 1953, which was used in the

course. In the later 1950s Tom prepared another text for the course: *Swanland*, based on his research in Western Australia and focusing on society and land settlement after World War II.

Tom was a very popular teacher and was always available to students. He had an easy, pleasant way about him and was a gracious and sincere individual who was always willing to help. Tom Field will be missed by all who had the privilege and benefit of knowing him.

Richard Ulack and William A. Withington
University of Kentucky, Lexington

Demetrius J. Georgacas (1908–1990)

Demetrius John Georgacas died at his home in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on February 7, 1990, eight days after his eighty-second birthday. He was active until he died and had not long before travelled to his native Greece.

Born January 30, 1908, in Siderokastro in the Peloponnesus, Georgacas in 1926 began his study of classical languages, art, and archaeology at the University of Athens, and later comparative linguistics. He completed his compulsory two-year military service, spending, he later reported, much of the time in tutoring and in preparing for his comprehensive examination at the university, which he passed in 1932 with highest honors. Between 1932 and 1934 he had the elementary school-teachers of the Southwest Peloponnesus collect placenames for him, a contribution to the “register and indexes” of toponyms eventually published with co-author Professor William A. McDonald in Greece as a supplement to the journal *Peloponnesiaka* and in 1967 distributed in the United States in book form by the University of Minnesota Press. Georgacas, an unrelenting worker, often had to wait to see the flowering of his efforts.

He began his formal lexicographic career in 1934 at the Academy of Athens, collecting materials and preparing entries for the *Historical Dictionary of the Greek Language*. On leave, 1938–41, he completed doctoral studies in Indo-European linguistics at the University of Berlin. Substantial parts of volumes 2 and 3 and a part of volume 4 of the *Ἱστορικὸν Λεξικὸν* (Athens, 1933–54) depended on Georgacas for their final editing.