

on condition that he allow me to pay for the drinks. He did, and I did.

Clarence was a great and distinguished scholar, linguist and publisher. He was a most congenial companion and a real friend. His passing is a great loss to onomastics and to the academic world at large.

E. Wallace McMullen  
Madison, NJ

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## Donald Thomas Clark, 1911-1993

### Gentleman, Scholar, Friend

When I first met Don Clark, I was already familiar with his *Santa Cruz County Place Names: A Geographical Dictionary*. I was walking with a cane and he slowed his pace in order to walk with me. I was struck by his kindness and his concern. In Santa Fe, New Mexico, at the Western States Geographic Names Conference in 1991, Don really surprised me. When he handed me an official letter bequeathing his onomastic library to the Lurline H. Coltharp Collection of Onomastics at the University of Texas at El Paso, I was speechless. His generosity was overwhelming. I was, and am, deeply grateful.

Don Clark was born in Seattle, Washington on March 13, 1911. In spite of battling polio twice, by 1934 he had earned a degree from the University of California at Berkeley. Two years later he received a bachelors degree in Library Science from Columbia University and in 1943 a masters from Harvard.

Don had become head librarian at Harvard Business School's Baker Library when he was offered a position at the University of California at Santa Cruz. One of his first tasks there was to assist in the planning of the library that was being constructed. Computers were not an established feature of libraries at that time, but Don insisted that the library be wired for a computerized catalog. He

retired from the university in 1973 to protest state cuts in funding for academic libraries.

Don's interest in placenames came from a number of sources, including his father-in-law, Professor A. Howry Espenshade, the author of *Pennsylvania Place Names*, and George R. Stewart, his faculty advisor at the University of California.

In addition to *Santa Cruz Place Names* (1986), Don also published *Monterey County Place Names: A Geographical Dictionary* (1991). Earlier he had published in a different field with *Dictionary of Business and Finance* (1957) and *The World of Business* (1962).

He was honored on October 12, 1982 when the courtyard in the McHenry Library at the University of California at Santa Cruz was named the Donald Thomas Clark Courtyard.

Don's son has said that Don enjoyed sports cars and bought them with a right-hand drive so that they would be easier for him to maneuver. He would drive around Massachusetts with the family dog, confusing the attendants on the toll roads.

Don is survived by his wife, Emily E. Clark, his daughter Pamela Clark Patrick, his son Michael Clark and four grandchildren.

Don has again been honored, this time by the establishment of the Emily E. and Donald T. Clark Map Endowment at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His name will also live on at the Library of the University of Texas at El Paso because of his generous donations. He leaves the American Name Society not only as a splendid example but with a lasting legacy.

Lurline H. Coltharp  
The University of Texas at El Paso