

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

EARL K. CARTER
(1889 - 1967)

Earl Kendall Carter was born in Springfield, Massachusetts on June 3, 1889. He graduated from Central High School in Springfield in 1907 and then took a position with the Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance Company. A trip to France and attendance of courses at the University of Grenoble in 1926 proved to be the decisive event in his life, for this experience decided him, at the age of 37, to return to school. He enrolled at Dartmouth College where he remained for five years, teaching French while studying. In 1931 Nick, as he was called affectionately by his friends, decided to come to Stanford to complete his undergraduate work. After receiving his A.B. degree in 1932, he obtained his M.A. in the following year. His thesis subject is entitled "A translation of Bishop Huet's Letter on Romances, with Introduction and Commentary."

After one year spent teaching French at Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio, he accepted a position as Professor of French and English at Piedmont College, Demorest, Georgia, where he stayed for ten years. From 1944 to 1947 he served as Assistant to the President and Director of Admissions at Olivet College in Michigan.

In 1947 Professor Carter returned to Stanford as an Assistant Professor of French in charge of lower division language courses. After seven years of devoted service, he retired in 1954 but was asked to continue working in various administrative capacities for the Department of Modern European Languages and later for the Department of French and Italian. He died on April 13, 1967.

With Nick Carter disappears an entire period in Stanford history, of that fascinating transition between the influx of the World War II veterans and the more recent orientation beginning with the General Education Study of 1956. Somehow this slight man with the deep resonant voice was ideally suited to deal with the many problems that swelling enrollments and improvised curriculum changes presented. A person who was a model of courtesy and good manners, the best New England can offer, a kind human being, a faithful friend, a cultured man, Nick Carter would not only disarm the most impatient student but quickly gain his confidence. He never had to give orders, one would be only too eager to please him.

Besides New England and his work, he had three loves: New York, London, and the theater. It is a consolation to us who grieve his passing away that, in the last years of his life, he was able, thanks to the efforts of the chairmen of the departments he served and to the generosity of Stanford University, to enjoy the experiences he had always dreamed of.

Leo Weinstein, Chairman
Raymond Giraud
Frederick W. Strothmann