

## [Atwood, John Murray]

### DR. JOHN MURRAY ATWOOD DIES SUNDAY MORNING

Dr. John Murray Atwood, 82, dean of the Theological School at St. Lawrence University since 1914, and member of the faculty of the same school and of the college of letters and sciences since 1905, died suddenly of a heart attack at the breakfast table of his home here Sunday morning 4 Nov 1951] at 10. Dean Atwood, who was named dean emeritus last month, had suffered from a heart ailment for three years and had had a serious heart attack early in October.

The body will be cremated and the ashes placed in the family burial plot in Evergreen cemetery, Canton. There will be no funeral services, but a memorial service will be held at the Gunnison Memorial chapel on the St. Lawrence campus next Sunday afternoon at 5. Dr. Ellsworth C. Reamon, Syracuse, chairman of the board of trustees of the Theological school, is in charge of arrangements for the service.

John Murray Atwood was born September 25, 1869 in Brocton, Mass., a son of the late Dr. Isaac Morgan Atwood and Almira Church Atwood. Dr. Isaac Atwood was president of the St. Lawrence Theological school from 1879 to 1899, general secretary of the Universalist General Convention in 1899 and superintendent of the Universalist church, a post equivalent to bishop, from 1899 to 1912.

John Murray Atwood received the bachelor of arts degree from St. Lawrence university in 1889, the bachelor of divinity degree in 1893, the master of arts degree in 1900, and the honorary LL.D degree in 1939. He received the D.D. degree from Lombard college in Illinois in 1906. At St. Lawrence as an undergraduate he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and Phi Beta Kappa. He was also a member of the Torch club. In his undergraduate days he was an outfielder with the varsity baseball team, at a time when fielders played without gloves, and he maintained his keen interest in all athletics until his death. He listened with great interest to the World Series broadcasts last month, although he was severely ill at the time.

After graduation from college, Dean Atwood served in Universalist pastorates in Clifton Springs from 1893 to 1895, in Minneapolis, Minn. from 1895 to 1898, and in Portland, Me. from 1899 to 1905. He came to St. Lawrence and the Theological school in 1905 as professor of sociology and ethics at the Theological school and professor of Greek at the college of letters and science. He also taught biography and parliamentary law at the college. In 1914 he became dean of the Theological school and Doxtater professor of theology, and in 1913-14 he was Gaines professor of philosophy at the college, succeeding Dean Henry Priest and succeeded by the late Dr. Charles M. Rebert.

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Dean Atwood was president and chairman of the board of the Universalist General Convention from 1923 to 1927 and president of the New York State Convention of Universalists from 1927 to 1929 and again from 1940 to 1942.

Dean Atwood married Miss Addie Ford, Middleville, who survives, on July (18?), 1894. Also surviving are three children, Mrs. Malcolm S. 'Ruth Tuttle' Black, South Orange, N. J.; Mrs. Ralph C. 'Helen Ford' Harwood, Skaneateles; and John Murray Atwood, Jr., manager of the Canadian division of Western Sealants Inc., Toronto, Ontario. Malcolm S. Black is secretary-treasurer of the Union Bag and Paper Company. Ralph C. Harwood is the head of the analyses division of First Trust and Deposit Company, Syracuse. Other survivors are three grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. Dean Atwood had three older sisters and one younger sister, all deceased.

Thirty-four members of the Atwood family, including sisters, children grandchildren, nieces and nephews and their wives and husbands, were graduated from St. Lawrence university.

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Transcribed on 5 Dec 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY