

[Greenway, Cornelius]

Dr. Cornelius Greenway Dead; Led Brooklyn All Souls Church

The Rev. Dr. Cornelius Greenway, pastor of All Souls Church of Brooklyn (Congregational) from 1929 to his retirement in 1965, and a collector of autographs, manuscripts, autographed photographs and first editions, died of a heart attack Sunday in his home at 520 East 21st Street, Brooklyn. His age was 71.

The church, at Ocean and Ditmas Avenues, was Universalist till 1961, when it became affiliated with the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. When the Universalist Church of America was merged with the American Unitarian Association to form the Unitarian Universalist Association, he and his congregation opposed the merger.

In 1960, Dr. Greenway's congregation voted overwhelmingly against the merger. The pastor said: "We feel we are now more in harmony with the Congregational Church than with the Unitarian fellowship."

His congregation, he said, did not agree with the view of the organizations planning the merger that Jesus should be placed on a par with other religious leaders.

6,000 Names Collected

"We look upon Jesus," he said, as the founder of the Church, and we lean upon His teachings."

Dr. Greenway's collection of autographs and photographs was reported in 1964 to number 6,000 or more signatures, 3,900 of them on photographs.

Represented in the collection were many American Presidents, including Washington, Jefferson, John Quincy Adams and Hoover; Albert Einstein, Adlai E. Stevenson, Joseph Stalin, Nikita S. Khrushchev, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and Edwin Markham.

Adolf Hitler, when he became German Chancellor in 1933, received a letter from Dr. Greenway congratulating him on his new eminence, and returned his autographed photograph.

Dr. Greenway was born in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, on May 6, 1896. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Abraham [and Jannetje Van Leeuwen] Groeneweg. After coming to this country he changed his name.

Holder of Several Degrees

He worked his way through Tufts College by delivering milk and working in a lunch wagon, among other jobs, and received a B.S. degree, magna cum laude, in 1925.

He received an S.T.B. from Tufts in 1928, and held honorary doctorates from Lincoln Memorial University, Wagner College and St. Lawrence University. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

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In World War I he was a corporal in the Army. He was wounded and gassed in France, and received the Purple Heart with four bars. He was naturalized later.

After being pastor of the Universalist Church, Taunton, Mass., from 1925 to 1928, he was associate pastor of the Universalist Church of the Redemption, Boston, from 1928 to 1929.

He was a 33d degree Mason and a former chaplain of the Masonic Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Dr. Greenway married twice. His first marriage, to Miss Julia Maxwell, ended in divorce. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Alletta L. Phillips Greenway; a daughter by his first marriage, Miss Vera Gordon [born Vera Julia Greenway]; two brothers, Jan and Matthew Groeneweg; and three sisters, Mrs. Anna Sander, Mrs. Adriana Appleby, and Mrs. Johanna Schapero.

A funeral service will be held at 8 p.m. today at the Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church, Dorchester Road and East 19th Street, Brooklyn.

New York Times, New York NY, Wed. 10 Jan 1968

Transcribed on 28 Sep 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY