



Richard B. Rice, Professor Emeritus Passed Away January 12

Richard B. Rice, professor emeritus of history, passed away January 12 in Redding, California.

Professor Rice earned his B.A. in 1945, his M.A. in 1947, and his Ph.D. in 1957 from the University of California, Berkeley. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in World War II and was among the first Americans to enter Japan at the end of the war. He came to CSUH in 1960 as a founding member of the faculty and retired in 1984, moving to a family farm in the Redding area, but continued to teach through the Faculty Early Retirement Program until 1995. During the early sixties he served as Chair of the Department of History and as a Special Assistant to the President. In 1969-70 he served as the Acting Head of the Division of Humanities and during the years 1970-72 was the Acting Associate Dean and then Acting Dean of the School of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences, now CLASS.

Regarding Dick Rice's teaching and scholarship, History Professor Emeritus Richard Orsi reports, "For the nearly 30 years, Professor Richard Rice was the mainstay of California history instruction at CSU Hayward, and it was through his initiative and leadership that three history faculty -- William Bullough, Dick, and I -- coauthored 'The Elusive Eden: A New History of California,' just published in its fourth edition this year with the addition of a fourth co-author, Mary Ann Irwin."

Dee Andrews, professor of history, adds, "Professor Rice was a pioneer in advancement for the University. Before the end of his work at CSUEB, he, with the continuing support of Marina Whitman, his late wife Eve's cousin, endowed the Evelyn Whitman Rice Scholarship in History in memory of Eve."

The Rice Endowment has gone on to underwrite approximately 30 scholarships for undergraduates, more than a dozen graduate awards, more than 50 student awards in historical research, and approximately 20 Gilliard Awards in historiography, in honor of the late Professor Daniel Gilliard.

"The History Department is deeply indebted to Dick's foresight," Professor Andrews notes, "and his willingness to make what started as a single scholarship endowment into a virtual CSUEB program for student advancement for all kinds of creative work in History."

Professor Rice's long-time colleague Professor Emeritus Mark J. Van Aken adds, "He was a wonderful guy, bright, very pleasant. It's heartbreaking that he's gone."

The family is planning a memorial service on the Hayward campus. Details will be available at a later time.