

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2016
VOLUME 42 EDITION 28
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM

“HIS NAME WILL LAST AROUND HERE FOR A VERY, VERY LONG TIME TO COME.”

- LEO LAMBERT
ELON PRESIDENT



A.J. MANDELL | Staff Photographer
President Emeritus
J. Earl Danieley attends the
groundbreaking ceremony of
the Schar Center Oct. 22.
Danieley died Tuesday, Nov. 29.

ELON PRESIDENT EMERITUS J. EARL DANIELEY DIES AT 92

Tommy Hamzik
Executive Director
@T_Hamzik

His smile won't be charming the students of Danieley Center on Move-In Day, his chemistry students on their lunch dates or basketball fans at home games. But while the man behind the rally towel won't be there anymore, the cheer will surely live on.

A legend of Elon University and Alamance County, President Emeritus J. Earl Danieley died Tuesday at 92, succumbing to a number of health issues that hindered him in his final years, years he still spent teaching at the same school from which he graduated.

Beloved and known affectionately as

“Dr. Danieley,” he served as president from 1957 to 1973 then as a professor in the chemistry department for many years after, retiring in spring 2016 and leaving behind an unmatched legacy across the Elon community.

Born July 28, 1924, in Alamance County, Danieley attended Elon College from 1941 to 1946. After graduation, Danieley was three months into a doctorate program at Johns Hopkins University when he was offered position at Elon teaching chemistry. He accepted, and never left.

Prior to serving as president of the college, Danieley was the dean for four years, from 1953 to 1956. At age 32, when he was inaugurated, Danieley was the youngest serving college president in the country.

In 2014 at Elon's Spring Convocation, Danieley recalled getting a phone call from

George Copeland saying he had been elected president — even though he never applied for the job.

“I said, ‘George, you’re crazy,’” Danieley said.

When he told his wife, Verona, she famously responded with, “Poor Earl.”

Danieley's tenure as president saw Elon make tremendous strides in terms of equality, notably with the first African-American students arriving on campus.

In 1963, less than a decade into Danieley's presidency, Glenda Phillips Hightower became the first African-American student to enroll at Elon. Eugene Perry '69 became the first African-American student to earn an Elon degree.

See **DANIELEY**
pg. 6