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Campus Mourns Death Of The Parsons

Good-bye to two old friends

Guilford College has lost two of its greatest friends. Mr. and Mrs. David H. Parsons, Jr. were killed in an automobile accident October 7, 1973. Dave Parsons, business manager at Guilford College for the past thirty-six years, was a member of the Class of 1933. His wife, the former Cora Worth Parker, graduated from Guilford in 1939.

The tragedy occurred in Greensboro about 7:00 p.m. at the intersection of Benjamin Parkway and Cornwallis Drive. Police officials said that Parsons' car was struck broadside by an automobile involved in a high-speed chase with a police car. The 21-year-old driver of the speeding car received serious injuries; Mr. and Mrs. Parsons died instantly.

President Grimsley Hobbs expressed the grief of the college and the community, saying: "We at Guilford College have been stunned by the tragic and untimely death of David and Cora Worth Parsons. Each of them was a very active member in many aspects of the college and was held in deepest affection."

Of the years Dave Parsons devoted to Guilford College in his role as business manager, Dr. Hobbs said, "He served with great dedication, shepherding the often slim resour-

ces of the college through depression years and beyond. In years of greater affluence he was persistent in helping us all to be budget conscious so that we could gain a maximum in educational achievement for the dollar.

"It is hard to conceive how we will get along without David and Cora Worth," stated President Hobbs. "Both were so much a part of what we are and what we aspire to be. They shall be profoundly missed, and by no one more than myself."

Dave Parsons, 61, came to Guilford in 1936 as Centennial Secretary. In 1937, the year of the college's one-hundredth anniversary, he took over as business manager. He saw the financial affairs of the college through the closing years of the Great Depression and the low-enrollment war years. And it was under his management that the college underwent its greatest expansion in enrollment and facilities during the fifties and sixties.

After earning an A.B. degree from Guilford in 1933, Dave Parsons attended Haverford College where he received an M.A. in 1934. He returned to Greensboro and served as

Boys Secretary at the Cone Memorial YMCA. The following year he served as executive secretary of the Community Chest in his native High Point.

More recently, he served several terms as mayor of the Town of Guilford College. A member of New Garden Friends Meeting, Parsons was a trustee of trust funds for the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends and a member of the executive committee of Friends Homes, Inc.

Cora Worth Parsons, 54, daughter of the late Mrs. Eunice Parker, trustee emeritus, graduated with an A.B. degree from Guilford in 1939. A native of High Point, she received a certificate from the Katherine Gibbs School in 1941. She was an active member of New Garden Friends Meeting, where she sang in the choir.

Mrs. Parsons was a jazz buff, and occasionally lectured to students on jazz music. She was also a frequent book reviewer for the Greensboro Daily News.

David and Cora Worth Parsons are survived by a daughter Penny, a sophomore at Guilford, and son David Parsons III, who is teaching in Algeria

Memorial contributions may be made to either Guilford College or New Garden Friends Meeting.