IN MEMORIAM

JOHN T. FERGUSON, IV

Dr. John Tyler Ferguson, IV, Assistant Professor of History at The University of Texas at Austin, died on July 21, 1973. He is survived by his mother, Suzanne Ferguson.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, on October 5, 1939, John Ferguson spent his childhood in Tifton, Georgia. In 1961 he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of the South, with highest honors in history. He then went to Emory University, where he received the degree of Master of Arts in 1962. His thesis, dealing with late medieval English diplomacy, was supervised by Professor George Cuttino. He continued graduate work at Emory for one further year, and taught there as an instructor in history during the summer of 1963.

For the next two years he held a Fulbright Fellowship for graduate study at Wadham College, Oxford. Working there under the tutelage of Dr. Pierre Chaplais, he received his doctorate in 1968, with a thesis on English diplomacy, 1422-1461. While in England he began work at the Public Record Office, editing a volume of Treaty Rolls, which was published later by the British government.

He taught as Assistant Professor at Columbia University for the year 1967-1968, and in the following academic year held the same position at Smith College. In the fall of 1969 he came to The University of Texas at Austin, as Assistant Professor. His promotion to the rank of Associate Professor

would have been effective in September of 1973.

Dr. Ferguson regularly offered courses on the early and high Middle Ages. One of his favorite courses was an undergraduate seminar on Renaissance diplomacy. He taught several courses at the graduate level, including an interdisciplinary seminar in diplomatic and paleography in conjunction with Dr. Eleanor Greenhill of the School of Fine Arts. One student completed a doctorate under his direction, and two others were doing doctoral work under him when he died.

An exceptionally diligent individual, Dr. Ferguson accomplished a great deal in his brief career. Apart from his thesis (published by Clarendon Press) and his edition of Treaty Rolls, he had done considerable further work that was interrupted by his death. He planned a two-volume study of Edward III's claim to the crown of France; he had collected on microfilm all the relevant manuscripts from England, and had begun transcribing them for a set of documents, which was to form one volume of this work. He had also done much of the work on a further volume of edited Treaty Rolls.

At the same time, he constantly paid close attention to his students' needs, academic and even personal. Numerous undergraduate and graduate students remember him for the generosity he showed them. His untimely death came as a shock to them, as well as to his colleagues and all others who knew him.

Lorene Rogers

Lorene Rogers, President ad interim
The University of Texas at Austin

James L. Kinneavy

James L. Kinneavy, Secretary
The General Faculty

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

Treaty Rolls, 1337-1339 (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1972)

English Diplomacy, 1422-1461 (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1972)

Encyclopedia Articles

Caroline of Brunswick; Thomas Carte; Catherine of Braganza; Catherine of Valois; Sir Thomas Cavendish; Jeremy Collier; Hubert de Burgh: Encyclopedia Americana, 1967

Crown Colonies; Crown Estates; Curia Regis; Declaration of Indulgence; Declaration of London; Declaration of Right; Domain; Treaty of Dover; Earl; Edward I; Edward III; Edward, the Black Prince; Instrument of Government; Encyclopedia Americana, 1968

Robert Fitzwalter; Sir John Fortescue; Geoffrey of Monmouth; Thomas, Duke of Gloucester; Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester; Henry III: Encyclopedia Americana, 1969

Reviews

Francis Parthenope Lady Verney, The Memoires of the Verney Family, in: Social Science Quarterly, 1972

Invited Papers

"The Mechanics of Anglo-French Diplomacy in the Middle Ages," Missouri Valley Historical Association, Omaha, Nebraska, 1970

Commentary on three papers dealing with source materials for late medieval English history, American Historical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1972

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Richard Kieckhefer (chairman), Oliver H. Radkey, and Ernest N. Kaulbach