



RICHARD VIRTUE

GRANVILLE T. NORRIS

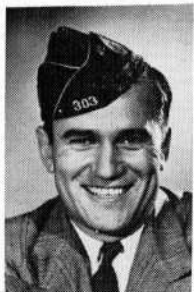
education circles. He formerly taught in Shawnee, and was later a member of the East Central State College faculty at Ada. He was superintendent of schools at Ada until 1943, when he became president of O.C.W. One of his two sons, Dan H. Procter, is now enrolled at the University.

M. S. Douglass, Jr., Henryetta, is an attorney at law. A World War II veteran, he is married and has one child, Dianne.

Richard L. Virtue is president of the Oklahoma County Alumni Club. Manager for the Frates Insurance Co. in Oklahoma City, he is a World War II veteran. He is married and has two children.



DAVID GISH



PRESTON J. MOORE

at the University, and was later appointed a U. S. Marshall. He married an alumna, the former Gwendolyn Hicks, '29.

► Miss Katherine Culbert, chairman of the department of physical education for women, attended the National and Southern District Convention of the American Association of Health, physical Education and Recreation in Dallas, April 16-22.

Preston J. Moore, Stillwater attorney, is a former state commander of the American Legion. A World War II veteran, he also served as commander of the University Legion Post. Married, he has two children.

Granville T. Norris, Muskogee, is owner of the Lifetime Metal Screen and Awning Co. He lettered in football, track baseball, and basketball during his years

For every Range Rider there's a place called

# Trail's End

When Ted Beaird died April 15, it was a loss for all friends of the University. Here is Beaird's story as told by a long-time friend and associate.

By Roscoe Cate, '26ba

The hard-riding, intrepid and lovable rider of the Sooner Range reached the end of the trail April 15.

Ted Marion Beaird, 52, died in Will Rogers Hospital at Oklahoma City where he had spent most of the time since a serious heart attack last October.

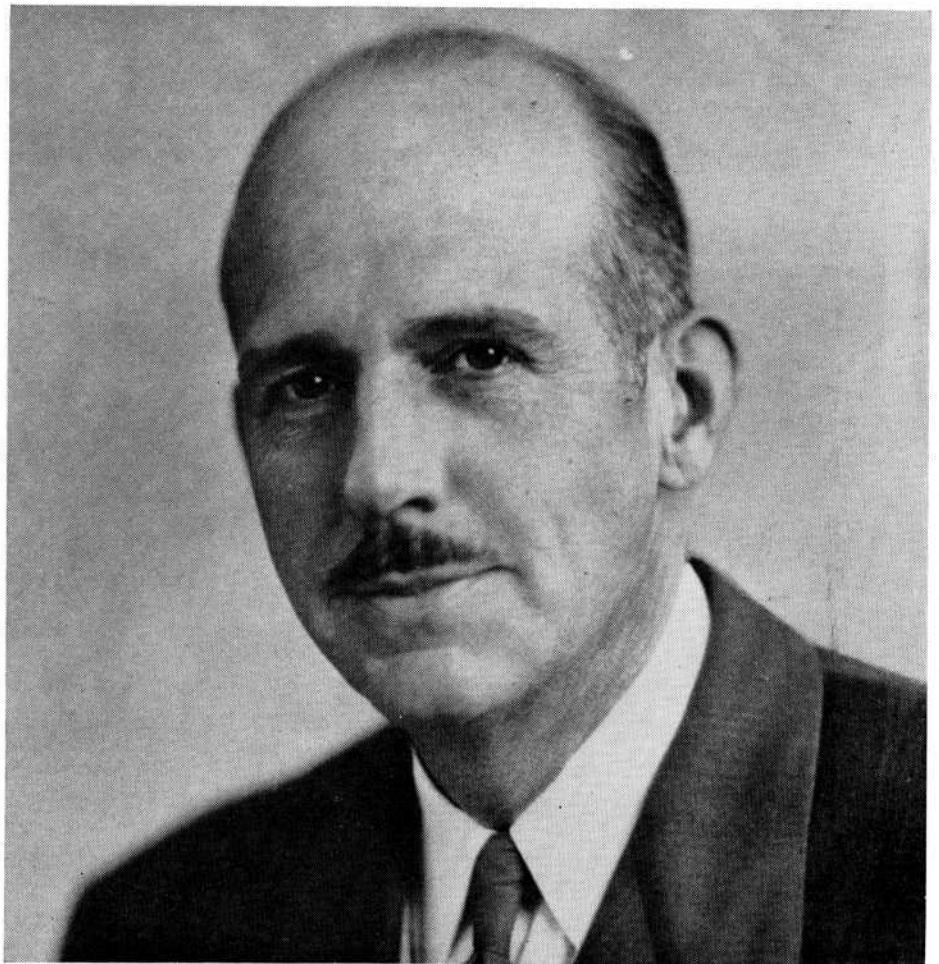
No more will the Sooner Range—from Miami to Altus, from Guymon to Idabel—hear the warm and cheerful voice that was likely to show up any time, day or night, and round up a gang of O.U. folks for a talk session.

Eventually someone else can write a piece for Sooner Magazine each month to take the place of "Riding the Sooner Range." But it won't be necessary to look at the byline to tell that Ted didn't write the piece. His style of writing, salted with his own personal brand of slang and some atomic-powered punctuation, gave grey hairs to the copy readers and printers. But the readers like it because it was breezy, newsy, and strictly Ted.

Funeral services were conducted the afternoon of April 17 in the First Presbyterian Church at Norman. Member of Pi Kappa Alpha and the

Norman Rotary Club attended in groups. Friends from all over Oklahoma, and some from other states, filled the church to capacity. Long-time associates in the Alumni Association, the Oklahoma Memorial Union Board of Governors, the American Legion, in speech and forensic activities, in the United States Army, in Rotary and fraternity work, in Masonic activities—and hundreds of former University students whom he had befriended—gathered to pay final respects to Ted Beaird. Joe Benton, '20ba, '21fa, '41ma, long-time friend and fraternity brother, sang in the service. Reverend Kenneth Feaver described Ted as a man who had met the test of serving his fellowmen. Friends and associates who served as pallbearers were T. R. Benedum, '28Law, E. D. Meacham, '14ba, Neil Johnson, '15ba, '17Law, Hal Muldrow, '28bus, W. T. Mayfield, '18ba, '20med, George Cummings, '49bus, Hillyer Freeland, '38fa, and Roscoe Cate, '26ba. An American Legion squad fired the final salute. Echo taps sighed a last farewell.

In leaving the Sooner range, and entering the broader range that lies beyond, Ted took with him



Ted Beaird as he looked shortly before stricken last October.

the affection and "Godspeed" of countless alumni and former students of the University of Oklahoma.

Hard-driving, restless, Ted Beaird for a quarter century was always engrossed in projects to help young people or to build "a greater University of Oklahoma."

His letters and his conversation were sprinkled with such phrases as "Go forward," "development program," "for the best interests of the University-at-large." Any criticism of the University, no matter how slight, was accepted by him as a challenge to find what could be done to remedy the difficulty. In times of stress when the University faced serious problems, the telephone in his home on Parsons Street, and later in his new home on Lindsay Road, would ring far into the night. He was never too engrossed with his own personal affairs or too weary from the work of the day to dash into action like a spirited fire horse whenever the call came.

Few persons can ever know how many times his knack of bringing influential groups of people into informal conferences saved the University from serious difficulties. Whether it was a change in the presidency of the University, a political crisis involving the University and State officials, or a difference of opinion on some matter of major importance to alumni and students—Ted was a person who could bring together the key persons with diverse viewpoints and stimulate a discussion that very often led to an acceptable solution to all concerned. Often he would have little to say in the meeting, other than to explain the purpose of calling it. But the value of his services as a catalyst was far-reaching.

The story of his achievements in building and strengthening the Alumni Association in the fourteen years since 1936, when he took over from Frank Cleckler, is well known. His work for the Oklahoma Memorial Union is also known to all alumni. The visible evidence can be seen in the tower on top of the Union; in the large additions to the building now under construction and which he planned and promoted.

Ted was born at Warren, Oklahoma. He graduated from Blair high school, and came to the University of Oklahoma where he received a B.A. degree in 1921. He served in the Student Army Training Corps in 1918 and had four months of active army service in World War I. As a student in the University, his principal interests were in speech and government. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Alpha Tau, Delta Sigma Rho, Pi Kappa Delta, Phi Rho Pi, and Phi Delta Kappa.



*As a student, Ted Beaird was a natural leader and excelled in speech work.*



*The three men who had served as secretary of the Alumni Association until Beaird's death are Richard Cloyd, '19ba, '28Law, Oklahoma City, Frank Cleckler, '21ba, Oklahoma City, and Beaird.*

He received alumni membership in Phi Beta Kappa in 1931 in recognition of his outstanding contribution after graduating from the University.

After graduation from the University, he served as Superintendent of Schools at Kiefer and Heavener, after which he returned to the University of Oklahoma to join the University Extension Division. He served in the extension program for eleven years, most of the time as Director of General Educational Service. He pioneered the development of interscholastic speech activities, both in Oklahoma and nationally. He developed the visual education service of the University of Oklahoma into a state-wide program and was responsible for the beginnings of visual education in hundreds of highschools over the state.

In the last half of 1935, he took leave of absence from the University to serve as Director of Personnel for the Works Progress Administration in Oklahoma. In October, 1936, he was appointed executive secretary of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association and Manager of the Oklahoma Memorial Union.

Few men could find the time and energy in 52 years to complete outstanding achievements in so many different fields.

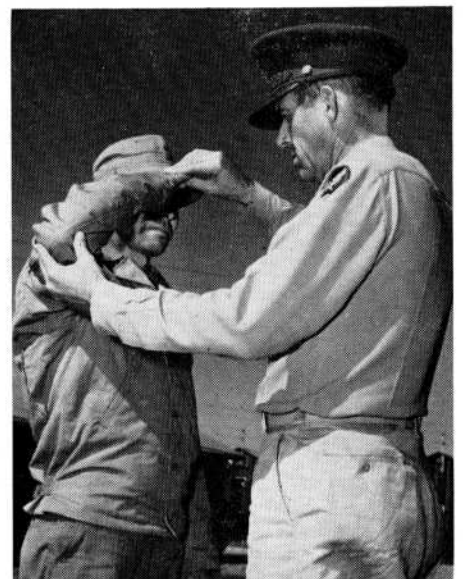
He held many offices in Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity including the district presidency, membership in the Supreme Council, and two years as national vice president of the fraternity. He was active in the Masonic Lodge (Knights Templar, Scottish Rite, Shrine). He was nationally known in the American Legion, both in the child welfare division and in connection with promotion of the Boys' State plan. For five years he represented the national headquarters of the American Legion (Child Welfare Division) as Field Representative and Lecturer.

For several summers he traveled the back roads and isolated areas of Oklahoma to locate orphan children of World War I veterans, in order to insure that they would receive proper care. He was responsible for placing many of these in the American Legion Home at Ponca City. Many times these orphan children were taken to the Beaird home

temporarily for special care before being taken to Ponca City. Regarding each of these almost like a son or daughter, Ted took time to keep up personal contacts with them, and one of his great satisfactions in life was to see these orphan children get good educations and become good citizens through the Legion child welfare program.

As a Rotarian, Ted held many offices in the Norman club, and in 1945-46 was elected District Governor.

A great believer in the importance of speech education to success in life, he served as Chairman of the Public Speaking Committee of the National University Extension Association for seven years, and as Executive Secretary of the Association of College and University Broadcasting Stations for



*On duty as an officer in World War II, Beaird showed a new recruit how to salute.*



*The last picture taken of Beaird was this informal pose with Joe Curtis, '20ba, '22Law, Pauls Valley, president of the Alumni Association.*

five years. He represented special speech and radio interests in centers throughout the United States for the Carnegie Foundation, the Payne Fund, the National Education Association and the National Committee on Education by Radio.

In 1928 Ted personally promoted the first interstate championship debate in the United States. The highschool debate team from Hartshorne had won the state championship of Oklahoma. Ted, in his capacity as director of the Oklahoma Highschool Public Speaking League at that time had found that the highschools of Virginia had debated the same question that year. The Virginia champions, Suffolk Highschool, had agreed to meet Oklahoma for the "National Championship" if the Hartshorne team would make the trip east to Washington for the contest.

Ted had to spend two days and nights in Hartshorne making the rounds of the community with volunteer workers to stimulate interest in the unheard-of idea of sending a highschool debate team to Washington for a national contest. His enthusiasm was contagious and he came back to Norman with \$760 in cash to pay for the trip. The Hartshorne youngsters went to Washington, defeated Suffolk for the championship, were entertained royally by the Oklahoma congressional delegation, visited Atlantic City, and saw the sights all along the way.

This is only one of many occasions on which he personally promoted activities to reflect credit on the State, the University, and the young people involved.

Always eager to be in the middle of the fight for the most important cause at hand, Ted took leave of absence from his campus responsibilities in August, 1942, to accept a commission as Captain in the Air Corps for service in World War II. He attended the Graduate Officers Training School at Miami Beach, Florida, served as commanding officer of the First Training Squadron, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, IV Air Service Area Command, McClelland Field, Sacramento, California; commanding Officer, First Training Squadron,

Camp Stockton, California; Base S-3 Officer, Pendleton Army Air Field, Oregon; deputy chief and chief, Personnel and Training Division, Air Technical Service Command, Area Headquarter, Spokane, Washington. He received several citations from commanding officers during his army service. There, as in his many phases of work for the University of Oklahoma, his "aggressive, fore-sighted spirit" served his country in an outstanding way.

He left the Air Corps in November, 1944, with rank of major, to return to his work with the Alumni Association and the Union.

Truly, few men could cram so much action, so much achievement, so much living in 52 years as did Ted Beaird.

Survivors include his wife, Kathryn Hazel Beaird, '24, and daughter, Sally.

Following are statements in appreciation of Ted's work for the three agencies he served.

Dr. George L. Cross, President of the University of Oklahoma:

"The University has lost one of its most devoted and capable administrators in the death of Ted Beaird. For more than a quarter century in positions of steadily increasing responsibility, he gave his time and his great enthusiasm and energy to the advancement of the best interests of the University.

"Even when he knew in the Summer of 1949 that his health was failing, he took the lead in organizing the alumni of state institutions of higher education to support the State building bond issue. His effective leadership undoubtedly was a major factor in the election victory.

"The University can never expect to fill the position of Executive Secretary of the Alumni Association and the Manager of the Union with another man with the same extraordinary combination of leadership, energy, versatility and enthusiasm."

Joe Curtis, '20ba, '22Law, Pauls Valley, President of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association.

"The University has suffered the loss of one of its best friends. For years and years, Ted Beaird devoted his heart, soul, mind and body to work for

The executive board of the Alumni Association has decided to appoint a special committee to determine the type of memorial to establish in memory of Ted Beaird. If you are interested, mail your contribution to the University of Oklahoma Foundation, Norman.

the institution he loved. He actually 'lived' the University. His death represents a loss that can never be replaced."

A. N. Boatman, '14ba, '16Law, Okmulgee, president of the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Memorial Union:

"Ted Beaird gave time and effort to the University and the State far beyond his physical limits. He did the same thing as an Air Corps staff officer. His foremost thought was for the students. No one could know the number of boys and girls he helped to go through school. He gave long hours of his own in developing his vision of Union expansion into reality, to provide better facilities for O.U. students. His death is a very great loss to the University and to the Union."

## FACULTY

### Wilkinson Returns

Bud Wilkinson, Sooner football coach, has returned to his job after missing four weeks of spring practice. Wilkinson has spent three weeks at Mayo clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, where he underwent a physical checkup following an abdominal operation.

Wilkinson had twice undergone surgery at Norman Municipal Hospital. The major operation was for removal of adhesions caused by an old appendectomy.

Upon returning to his coaching position, he began shuffling positions left vacant by the graduation of 18 seniors. After watching the team work out, he gleamed:

"I thought they looked very good, especially their spirit—it was great."

### Oak Ridge Picks Sooner

William B. Lewis, University assistant professor of electrical engineering, has an eventful summer ahead of him. He has been chosen to participate in research at the Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Institute of Nuclear Studies. OU is one of 24 institutions sponsoring the institute. Dr. Laurence H. Snyder, graduate school dean, is chairman of the institute's medical committee.

### Clark Is Commended

Dean Ralph W. Clark of the University school of pharmacy was commended at a meeting of the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy.

The board commended him for his excellent work in establishing standards at the school of pharmacy. And he was given acknowledgement for his work in contacting druggists in an effort to promote better relations between the OPA, the State Board of Pharmacy and the University.

► D. R. Kimrey, '40ba, director of purchasing, attended the Institute of College and University Purchasing in Chicago, March 19-25.