

Howard Jones dies; was former University president

Former University president Dr. Howard W. Jones died 7:25 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 25, at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center. He was 86.

Jones served as president of the University from 1931, when the campus consisted only of one or two buildings and was called Youngstown College, to 1966, when the University was expanding and was then called Youngstown University.

During his years as president, Jones witnessed the college's expansion from an institution which had a \$100,000 budget and a student enrollment of 472 in 1931 to a complex campus with several colleges, including a graduate school.

He also was responsible for the creation of the football program here.

Jones had been a vice president of the Ohio College Association

and was active in the affairs of the Youngstown Education Foundation.

He was a recipient of a number of honors and awards. He was listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Education*, and was elected to the William Holmes McGuffey Historical Hall of Fame. He also won many community awards, including the Governor's Award for Community Action.

In the 1940s, a scholarship was named in honor of him and his wife, and in 1966, a Howard Jones Presidents Club was established. Upon his retirement that same year, Jones was commended by University faculty for recognizing "the crucial importance of academic freedom to good teaching" and for insisting "on the inviolability of the teacher's right to present his subject in the classroom as he believes it should be."

Jones was a member of several community and charitable organizations, including the Friends of American Art, the Youngstown Public Library, the Masons, the Mahoning County Division of the American Cancer Society and Family Service Foundation of Mahoning County. He also was an elder at Central Christian Church.

Jones was born Sept. 25, 1895, in Palmyra. He graduated from Alliance High School. When

he graduated from Hiram College in 1920 with a bachelor of arts degree, he was awarded the Albert Teachout prize for being the best student in his class. He received his master's degree from Western Reserve University in 1930, and in 1943, he was granted an honorary doctor of pedagogy from Westminster College.

He was a Naval officer in World War I, and prior to becoming University president here, Jones was an athletic teacher and coach from 1920 to 1922 when he then became principal. In 1930, he became an assistant to the president at Hiram College.

Jones leaves behind his wife, two daughters and five grandchildren. Services were held Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Shriver-Weller-King Funeral Home, North Side. Material tributes can be made in the forms of contributions to the Youngstown Education Foundation.