

way to promote mutual understanding and achieve a lasting peace in the Korean peninsula.

Like a number of other professors in the various departments and colleges of the University, he helped to establish the international reputation of Western Michigan University. A separate collection consisting of his personal library, his publications, and other works on Korea, Asia, military studies and political development will be established in Waldo Library at Western Michigan University.

In 1984 Gene Kim was named Distinguished Faculty Scholar at Western Michigan University. This is how many will remember him, but his close friends and colleagues will also remember his good humor, ready smile, and generosity of spirit and good will.

Ernest E. Rossi
Western Michigan University

James Clay Thompson

James Clay Thompson, associate professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, died unexpectedly on January 15, 1989, in Greensboro. He was 45 years old.

James Clay Thompson was a teacher, a scholar, and a practitioner. He was born in Illinois on October 20, 1943. He received his B.A. in political science from the University of Wisconsin in 1965. He then spent several years as an intelligence research analyst in the Department of Defense, where his experience was later to form the basis for his *Rolling Thunder: Understanding Policy and Program Failure*, an analysis of the U.S. bombing campaign against North Vietnam between 1961 and 1968. In his review of this seminal work, Seymour Hersh called it "an honest inside account of the failure of one of the most ambitious bombing campaigns of the Vietnam War that also makes clear why the American military inevitably repeats its failures."

Jim joined the Department of Political Science at Vanderbilt University in 1973. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1975, and, in 1976, joined

the Department of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In 1979 Jim returned to the Department of Defense for two years, where he served as special assistant for policy in the European and NATO Affairs branch of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs. The major intellectual product of his second sojourn into the government was *Defense Facts of Life*, an incisive study of the defense procurement process that documents the inefficiencies in military procurement. The inability of the military and defense officials to "get it right" was a theme running throughout Jim Thompson's work. He was also the co-author (with Richard F. Vidmer) of *Administrative Science and Politics in the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.*

Jim was as comfortable in the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill as he was in the classroom. Jim genuinely liked people and enjoyed dealing with them in many different environments. He was an "in-and-outer" who knew how to bring the lessons of his Washington experience into the classroom. But he was also a rigorous political scientist who applied organizational and behavioral theory to understanding the American political system.

I first met Jim Thompson in September 1973, when we both joined the political science faculty at Vanderbilt University. Jim had just left a graduate program at the University of Michigan and I had just finished at Ohio State. That fall, and nearly every fall in the fifteen years since, Jim and I placed a friendly wager (lunch) on the outcome of the Ohio State-Michigan football game. Even after we each departed Vanderbilt for other institutions, Jim kept in touch, and I could count on a telephone call every year at half-time during the Ohio State-Michigan game. The game and the wager weren't the important things; the communication was. Jim was like that, someone who made friends easily, remembered, and kept in touch.

I last saw Jim in Atlanta in September 1987, during a meeting of the Section on Military Studies of the International Studies Association. Jim had suffered serious health problems in recent years, but

seemed to be well on the way to recovery—his attention focused on the problems and concerns of others. It is this thoughtful and caring Jim Thompson that many of his friends and colleagues will remember.

Jim is survived by his wife Patricia M. Gray of Greensboro, North Carolina; his son James Clay Thompson III of Cary, North Carolina; his parents James Clay Thompson, Sr. and Mary Thompson of Chicago, Illinois; and his sister Lynn Cassel of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Contributions in memory of James Clay Thompson may be sent to the Development Office, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, marked "for the James C. Thompson Fund." These funds will be used for the support of scholarship and guest speaker programs at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Linda P. Brady
Georgia Institute of Technology