

fast?" To which he immediately responded, "You can have the ice cream." Fortunately, my breakfast was a bit more substantial.

Knox's impatience came out in another somewhat revealing way, that was perhaps irritating to some. Often when attending a meeting called by various administrative staff, he would bring along a sheaf of papers, usually a manuscript, and edit rapidly and furiously while the meeting was going on. This didn't always please the ones who had called the meeting or those who had some particular agenda for which they wished his support or agreement.

There are so many areas of the university that he touched that it is difficult to mention them all. The Museum series of special and occasional papers are quite

well known. The exchange within the libraries of those papers have helped the mammalogists at Texas Tech particularly become known across the nation and internationally.

Without further anecdotal items, I can only sketch Dr. J. Knox Jones, Jr., as being unique. He was persistent, dedicated to his science and his profession. He was uncompromising and intense in pursuing his goals, and he maintained a focus on his product—his academic accomplishments, and his research. Knox Jones touched the lives directly and indirectly of every person here, and others across the campus and nation. Our focus as a university was affected by him and it is fitting that we pause for these minutes in the business of the institution to acknowledge his impact.

THE DEDICATED SCIENTIST

Robert J. Baker

In 1964, I made a trip to the University of Kansas from Oklahoma State University to meet with a prominent young professor in hopes that he would accept me as one of his Ph.D. students. That prominent young professor was Dr. J. Knox Jones, Jr. Thus began my association with Knox. In my wildest dreams, I did not suspect that one day he would chose me to deliver a eulogy on his life as a scientist. Such a eulogy for a person as significant as Knox is probably a job too complex for the most eloquent speaker; however, I will do my best.

First, let me try to capture an overview of Knox. Our museum, of which Knox has been an important member, is fortunate enough to have a number of original paintings by N.C. Wyeth. One of my favorite features of these paintings is how successful Wyeth is at making the heroes bigger than life. They clearly extend beyond realistic limitations, dwarfing their surroundings. Knox was a Wyethian hero. His reputation, his accomplishments, his ambiance, his ability to succeed, all extend into the realm of a Wyethian hero.

This image is not without factual basis. He published his first paper in 1946 at the age of 17. Since that time he has published over 360 papers, averaging almost 8 papers per year. He has edited or written 15 books.

He has served as major advisor and dissertation director for 18 Ph.D. students. The success of these students reflects Knox's ability to lead. Today, these students are prominent leaders within the world of mammalogy and head dynamic graduate and research programs at major academic institutions such as the University of Colorado, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska, and Boston University. His former students today form a strong academic nucleus of well-respected leaders.

Perhaps it is appropriate at this time to bring into focus the complexity of working with Knox. Working with Knox was like trying to ride, bareback, the most spirited, young, headstrong stallion. While the results were usually unbelievably productive, the trip generally took you to places you didn't plan or want to go and you often took a fall or two. In the over 20 years that I had the

during the same ten-year period. And there were the Deans. At least two Deans served in each college during the ten years Knox served as Vice President, making a total of at least nineteen Deans with whom he worked in an administrative role. The number of Department Chairs and changes I will not even try to account for.

The general administrative organization structure was changed during the period as well. For instance there was change from an Executive Vice President arrangement to one in which the President worked more directly with other Vice Presidents and Deans.

I mention these many personnel changes to illustrate that Knox was both a force for change—change toward improved graduate teaching and research—and one of the elements of stability while the changes were occurring. He and I observed to each other several times over the past fifteen years that we received a substantial administrative education while remaining in one place.

Through all this ten years Knox never forgot that he was first and foremost a faculty member. He truly tried to look at administrative problems from a faculty point of view. Of course we all understand that there is not a faculty point of view but myriad faculty points of view, so he was able to enjoy frequent arguments over procedure with a wide variety of personnel across campus.

Dr. Jones' administrative style was one of personal involvement, collegial consultation, and academic argumentation, before acceptance of a decision or point of view. Knox typically did not make administrative decisions based on heavy data-driven analyses. Rather, he had strong personal commitment and a common sense approach based upon confidence in his experience and assessment of a given situation.

Knox was a somewhat hard-headed scientist about many things. His administrative style and action was undoubtedly influenced strongly by his graduate work in Kansas. One administrator who worked with him throughout the period indicated that he was "rigorous but reasonable", an administrator who made it easy to get things done but in a way which argued for academic quality and success.

Unlike some other faculty I have known, Knox accepted suggestions and editing and evaluated them in terms of whether a product or process could be improved rather than how they might have affected his original writing. An excellent editor himself, he *usually* accepted changes from his peers in the administrative realm.

An aspect which may now be little known was his involvement in international activities. I am not talking

about collecting mammals from Mexico to Yugoslavia, but rather his interest in international affairs from an administrative standpoint. Dr. Jones was quick to follow the lead of then Executive Vice President Glenn Barnett regarding the project with Poland. He was instrumental in bringing Polish visitors here, both for administrative reviews and for teaching. I had the opportunity of going to Poland with Knox Jones in the early 1980s and was able to observe another view of his work. That is, he did his homework on Polish history and was able to discuss matters of some sensitivity in regard to East-West relations with the Polish academics, in his usual forthright manner.

For the family I would like to read a letter received by fax machine yesterday. This comes from the Technical University of Wroclaw in Wroclaw, Poland. It says: "With grief and pain we have learnt your message that Dr. J. Knox Jones, Jr. died yesterday. This is an honest bereavement for his family, friends, science, and your university. We will keep the recollections of Knox in our minds and hearts as a good friend, excellent companion, and warm supporter of the cooperation amongst our universities. Sorrowful, we join with his family and friends in the last rites. Very truly yours, Dr. Witold Charewicz and Dr. Boguslaw Kedzia."

In some ways the academic community is a small world. The discussions, bordering on arguments, Knox held with the then President of the Technical University of Wroclaw may have had other consequences since that President went on to become a member of the fifteen-member ruling politburo of Poland and later Ambassador to Yugoslavia.

It is said that strong people may have strong flaws, and certainly Knox had his share. And usually he could be kidded about them. For example, many of us who worked closely with him had occasions to remark about his growing impatience. He became impatient when goals were not achieved rapidly enough, and sometimes with inanimate objects. He could become visibly upset while waiting for a slow elevator, for example, and bureaucratic activities could cause some colorful language. Only sometimes could he smile at himself for his reactions.

It was on a trip to Poland when we went down to a hotel dining room early in the morning. For whatever reason, a young Polish soldier was sitting at a table with two items in front of him. One was a tall stemmed goblet of ice cream. Beside it was a dark bottle of beer. As we passed I asked Knox, "Do you suppose that's break-

privilege of working at Texas Tech with Knox, there were certainly times that he and I went head to head. In fact, these encounters were often intense and I certainly didn't win my fair share. In light of such conflict, I have been asked on several occasions why I continued to work closely with Knox. The answer is very simple, since that trip to Kansas I have understood and appreciated the unique ability that Knox had to succeed and to disproportionately accomplish goals against all odds. I have carefully observed my dear friend, Knox, and have learned many important lessons of life from him. I am sure that not only a portion of my success but those of other successful people such as Clyde Jones, Hugh Genoways, Jerry Choate, David Schmidly, and John Burns just to mention a few, is a direct result of our ability to learn from Knox. Through all of these interactions I believe that each of us that worked with Knox appreciated the Wyethian hero image of Knox's commitment to scientific accomplishments and our successes are a tribute to his leadership abilities.

In light of his image, all of us alpha achievers relished the thought of a clear one-upmanship. I certainly didn't succeed very often, but I can recall one day when I felt I scored a direct hit. Knox had a very definite commitment to decorum, if not pomp and circumstances, and in the mid-seventies my normal attire was sandals, shirt-tail out, and long hair. On this occasion I was supposed to be introduced to the Texas Tech Board of Regents and Knox left no room for me to misunderstand that proper dress was expected. When I showed up, 15 minutes before the meeting in sandals and looking my typical hippie self, Knox lost it. I was overjoyed to know that a full suit hung behind the door and I quickly got dressed and combed my hair. Over the last few years, Knox mentioned that day to me on several occasions and with an appropriate smile pointed out that I am lucky to be alive today. Well Knox, today I have on my dress shoes, tie, a coat and I believe that even you will agree that my hair is adequately short.

Knox loved to buck the system and I'm sure that most of you appreciate that there are very complex operating procedures for any changes of landscape on campus. Having been a Vice President, Knox knew these rules well. None the less he decided to build a cactus garden beside the Natural Science Research Lab of the Museum. At the appearance of the first cactus several years ago, I asked if he had gone through proper channels and he told me with considerable disdain that he had not and would not. About 2 years ago, I told him to either take

the plants out or get University approval. Of course he did neither and the extensive attractive garden beside the building enjoyed a gentle rain yesterday.

Let me take a moment and review some of the awards that society has bestowed upon Knox.

1. Fellow of the Texas Academy of Sciences — 1982
2. Outstanding researcher award - College of Arts and Sciences — 1984
3. Barnie E. Rushing Award — 1985
4. Horn Professor, Texas Tech University (named for Tech's first president — Paul Whitfield Horn) — 1986
5. Honorary member of the Texas Academy of Sciences — 1992
6. The Don W. Tinkle Award, Southwestern Association of Naturalists — 1992
7. Honorary member of the Texas Society of Mammalogists — 1992
8. Texas Scientist of the Year, Texas Academy of Science — 1992

From the nearly 4,000 members of the American Society of Mammalogists, Knox received the following recognition.

- President — 1972-74
- C. Hart Merriam Award — 1977
- H.H.T. Jackson Award — 1983
- Honorary Membership — 1992

He described and provided the scientific names for 36 mammals and mites. Eight organisms (plus two in this volume) bear scientific names honoring Knox (patronyms) including an anal mite. The fact that this mite bore his name always seemed to please Knox.

Clearly, there are very few people in science who have published over 360 papers, who have turned out so many quality graduate students, and who have been so decorated by their professional societies and academic institutions. It is appropriate to remember that for many of the years while he was averaging eight papers a year, he was also Dean of the Graduate School, Vice-President for Research and doing other jobs for which normal people would accept as a valid reason to end their research career or at least substantially reduce their productivity. Knox's publication record is consistent through all of these other full-time jobs which you earlier heard Dean Langford and Vice Provost Ainsworth speak about in terms of glowing accomplishment. The amazing thing is that his commitment and accomplishments during these same years extended far beyond even those previously noted. For example, Knox loved to edit. He served the American Society of Mammalogists as an editor for over

16 years, including a six year stint as Managing Editor, editor of the publication series for our Museum for 10 years, Editor for Texas Journal of Science for seven years, and Managing Editor for the Society for the Study of Evolution for two years. For most scientists, a major editorial commitment such as managing editor can be recognized on their curriculum vitae by a noticeable reduction in number of publications and it is truly amazing to know that Knox remained so productive as a scientist through periods during which he was also serving both as editor and as an important and effective administrator at Texas Tech. I believe that for Knox editing served him the same way a hobby serves most people. He had a number of jokes that he enjoyed telling that justified the needs for editors in society. One such joke that he loved to tell was the case where an older gentleman had courted a lady of his age for some time and he finally proposed marriage. The lady responded with a question. How do you feel about sex? The man replied "infrequently." The lady asked "is that one word or two?" Knox would smile and say that without a good editor, the wrong conclusion would be drawn.

Knox had told me that one of his goals was to never retire and to work till the very end of his life. On Friday night, November 13th, I took Knox a manuscript that he was an author on for him to edit. When I picked up his

papers on Sunday afternoon, November 15th, he had completely and thoroughly edited this manuscript. On Saturday night, November 14th, Dr. Robert Bradley and I put the finishing touches on another manuscript on which Knox was a senior author. We had expected to carry that manuscript to him on Sunday afternoon for his final approval. Of course he never saw the final version. The manuscript was submitted to the *Journal of Mammalogy* this last Monday. I believe that this is exactly how our Wyethian hero wanted it.

We are extremely saddened by the loss of our friend and colleague. We extend our sympathy to his family and to others who shared his friendship. But it is extremely important that we temper our sorrow with the joy and understanding of his accomplishments. Let us remember that Knox truly lived by Eccl. 9: 10: "Whatsoever thy hand finds to do, do it with all thy might." Let us remember to celebrate his administrative accomplishments, to celebrate the success of his graduate students, to celebrate his huge publication record and scientific achievements, and finally, to celebrate the positive influence that he has had on the future of Texas Tech University.

We have been privileged to know and love such a unique individual. There will never be another Knox.

We all will miss you.

Robert J. Baker (pp. 25, 35, 83)

J Knox Jones, Jr., was an awesome individual. Any task or undertaking he chose was given his total commitment. Such a personality trait was reflected in his strengths as well as his frailties. Most people who encountered him wished to become a part of his life, to share in some way his impact on the world around him. Perhaps that is one reason this book to honor him has been produced.

The idea of an encomium from each invited author contributing to the book came from Carleton Phillips and the writing of mine has been extremely difficult. The eulogy I had written left me drained of any desire to write an encomium because the design of the encomium is to reflect both personal as well as professional aspects of the relationship between Knox and the author. This is about the fifth incident that I have tried to describe to define our relationship.

There were many "Knox" field trip stories by his students and I always coveted the opportunity to go to the field with him. The opportunity came in 1978 when the Archbold Foundation gave Knox some funds to visit Dominica and Knox invited me to make the trip with him. We set many mist nets for bats, checked out caves, and visited previous localities recorded in the literature.

Several features made the trip memorable. As is typical of a mammalogy field trip, we both worked hard, usually 18 to 20 hours per day. Knox told many stories about E.R. Hall, other prominent mammalogists, many of whom were his former students. He told me he was glad he had gone into administration but that he missed field work. Clearly, he had a great time catching bats.

On the last day of field work in Dominica, we were concerned that no specimens of *Natalus* had been collected and we set out to check a number of tunnels and sea and mountain caves that might contain *Natalus*. We started with the caves most easily checked and "of course" *Natalus* proved to be present only in the last and most remote cave. This cave was high in the mountains and a horrible climb over huge rocks and thick vegetation. I offered to check it alone because we both were

tired and I was afraid that Knox's lungs and heart were too damaged from smoking. He would have none of my suggestions and we both made the climb. The native guides were hell bent for leather and I thought I was going to die but Knox refused to cry "uncle" and he kept up all the way. We collected some *Natalus* and went back to the field station and processed the sample. Later we discussed the day's event and I asked why he made the climb. He told me that he thought we might collect a sample that would be critical to determining an undescribed species (the status of the *Natalus* sample on the islands was under question) and he wanted rights to first authorship if that proved true. He mentioned that I could do him a favor by telling his students that he was still tough in the field. Indeed he was.

Dilford Carter had wagered me that he was sure that Knox would skin more specimens on the trip than I would and Knox knew about the bet. In Dominica, he even claimed credit for the bet saying it was probably the only way he could get me to put up a few skins. Each day Knox and I would put up exactly the same number of skins and Knox would tease that maybe there was some small chance I could win. As all his colleagues knew, Knox put up a handsome specimen and I was harassed each day with comments that my preps were not good enough to be counted. At the end of the last day, I hid an individual of *Natalus* under my bed in a bat bag. After Knox went to bed, I got up and skinned the specimen, unpacked the skinning trunk and placed the "extra" specimen on a tray that would not be examined until the trip was over. Back in Lubbock when we unpacked the specimens, Knox did not act surprised that I had one more skin in our collection than he did. He smiled and in a "Tom Sawyer" tradition boasted of getting maximum field work out of a karyotyper.

