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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

A. WAYNE COLVER (1923-1987)

PAPERS, 1963-1964, 1972-1977, 1987
2 linear feet

ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Ginny Colver.

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Biography

Anthony Wayne Colver, known as A. Wayne Colver, taught in the Philosophy Department at California State University, Fresno, for thirty years. He also chaired the department from 1960 to 1962 and served as Assistant Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in the late 1960s. After retiring in June of 1986, he died on March 9, 1987, from a sudden illness. He was commemorated by the university with the establishment of the “A. Wayne Colver Memorial Book Fund” at the Henry Madden Library. The rare book collection in the Sanoian Special Collections Library was also named for him.

A. Wayne Colver was born on December 23, 1932, in Oakland, California. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of California at Los Angeles and his master’s and doctoral degrees from Harvard University. He went on to publish a critical edition of David Hume’s *Natural History of Religion* and co-edit *Compositions and Research: Problems in Evolutionary Theory*.

In his personal life, Colver was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of both the American Philosophical Association and Phi Beta Kappa. He married Virginia Grace “Ginny” Sanders on April 9, 1949, in Los Angeles. They had two sons.

Scope and Content Note

The A. Wayne Colver papers measure 2 linear feet and date from 1963 to 1964, 1972 to 1977 and 1987. The collection contains memorial information and information concerning his books, *The Natural History of Religion* and *Compositions and Research: Problems in Evolutionary Theory*.

His memorial information consists of an obituary and a memorial service flyer. Both items give some background information on his life, death, and legacy.

For *The Natural History of Religion*, there are page proofs, correspondence between the publisher and Colver, publisher’s notices, copy editor’s queries, a memorandum of agreement between Colver and Oxford University Press, and a book review titled “Dead-born from the Press.”

For *Compositions and Research: Problems in Evolutionary Theory*, there are page proofs and other miscellaneous documents related to the book.

Box no. Description

Box 1

Memorial

Memorial service flyer, 1987

Obituary, 1987

Memoranda and correspondence (with Henry Miller Madden), 1959, 1966-1967

Photograph (Fresno Wine and Food Society), undated

The Natural History of Religion

Book review, 1977

Copy editor's queries, undated

Correspondence, 1972-1977

Memorandum of agreement, 1973

Page proofs, 1975-1976 (3 folders)

Publisher's notices, 1972-1976

Box 2

Compositions and Research: Problems in Evolutionary Theory

Page proofs, 1962 (2 folders)

Miscellaneous, 1963-1964

Book cover, undated

Gift notice, 1963

Special shipment request, 1964