

Past president of NCC succumbs to cancer

Harold B. Milliken, former president of Nebraska Christian College, died of cancer Wednesday at Clarkson Hospital in Omaha. He was 69.

Milliken, 401 S. Ninth St., was president of Nebraska Christian College in Norfolk from 1952 to 1984. After his retirement, he was succeeded by Richard Wamsley.

He continued to serve part-time with the college development staff after his retirement.

He served on the NCC faculty for 36 years, beginning as a professor in 1948 and later as acting dean.

During his tenure as NCC president, the college grew steadily. The pre-

sent 85-acre campus was purchased in the late 1960s and students moved into the first dormitory in 1969. The administration moved to the new location at 1800 Syracuse Ave. from 910 Park Ave. in 1970.

An alumni hall, music and student centers, tennis courts, baseball diamond, five more housing units and a shop building were also constructed during the years Milliken was president.

Although he did not join the NCC staff until 1948, Milliken was also involved with the founding of the college in 1945.

He was born Dec. 28, 1916 in Omaha and grew up around Ewing, graduating from high school there in 1935.

He graduated from Minnesota Bible College in 1942 and from Butler School of Religion in 1954 with a bachelor of divinity degree.

On June 14, 1951, he married Greta Dietz. They had five children: Robert, Paul, Richard, Marilee and James. All his sons are in the ministry. His daughter has also done mission work in Mexico.

When Milliken retired, the college named the administration building in his honor and presented him with a bronze plaque with his portrait on it.

Milliken was also very involved in community affairs in Norfolk and in fund-raising efforts for the college and community.

Services are pending at the Johnson-Stonecek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk.



Harold B. Milliken

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A good man gone

The man most responsible for the growth of Nebraska Christian College in Norfolk is gone, a victim of cancer at 69. Harold Milliken retired in 1984 from the presidency of the institution which he worked tirelessly to develop.

His ability as a Christian educator, a fund-raiser, a teacher and counselor of students, a participant not only in church affairs but civic activities, provided a lasting contribution to the betterment of this community.

He influenced many young lives in a positive, constructive way. This continued after his retirement as head of the college, as he continued to serve on a part-time basis the institution which he helped found in 1945 and first joined as a professor in 1948.

The best tribute to his work is the continued growth and development of the college since he retired as the president. The best leaders perform their greatest service by leaving their institutions strong, and in a position to grow even more, and to serve even better. Harold Milliken provided that kind of leadership.

Services for H.B. Milliken on Saturday

Services for former Nebraska Christian College President Harold B. Milliken, 69, will be Saturday at 2 p.m. in the college's alumni hall. The Revs. Terry Bowland and James Hopkins will officiate.

Burial will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Norfolk. Visitation will be Friday from 3-9 p.m. at Johnson-Stonecek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk.

He died of cancer Wednesday at Clarkson Memorial Hospital in Omaha.

Milliken, who joined the college in 1948 and became president in 1952, was an elder of the First Christian Church in Norfolk, a member of the Norfolk Rotary Club and a board member on the Norfolk YMCA. He served ministries in Minnesota, Nebraska and Indiana before coming to Norfolk in 1948.

He was born on Dec. 28, 1916 in Omaha to Henry and Christine (Person) Milliken. He grew up around Ewing, graduating from high school there in 1935.

On June 14, 1951, he married Greta Dietz at Cogswell, N.D.

Survivors include his wife Greta of Norfolk, four sons, Richard of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Robert of Lincoln, James of Omaha, and Paul of Morrowville, Kan., one daughter, Marilee of Lincoln, seven grandchildren, his mother, Mrs. Christine Hawk of Ewing, and one brother, Kenneth Milliken of Oakland, Calif.

He is preceded in death by his father and a stepfather.

Greta Milliken

PAPILLION — Services for Greta Mae Milliken, 89, formerly of Norfolk, will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Wildwood Christian Church in Papillion. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Norfolk.

She died Wednesday, June 2, 2015, in Papillion.

Memorials are directed to Nebraska Christian College or 1st Christian Church.

Greta Mae Milliken (nee Dietz) was born June 24, 1926, to Norval and Mae Dietz and grew up on a farm in Cogswell, N.D., where her parents raised crops and dairy cattle. She moved to Minneapolis for college, graduating from Minnesota Bible College in 1947. She served as the secretary for First Christian Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa, from 1947 to 1951.

On June 14, 1951, she married Harold Milliken. She was a devoted wife and homemaker in Norfolk, where Harold served a president of Nebraska Christian College for over 30 years. Greta was a nurturing and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She also helped Harold in his ministry at Nebraska Christian College, supporting and giving hospitality to pastors, missionaries and students from all over the world.

She served as church organist and pianist for over 50 years and taught piano lessons for over 40 years. She served as Bible school superintendent and teacher at First Christian Church in Norfolk for many years and volunteered with the Boy Scouts and Meals on Wheels. She enjoyed supporting Christian missionary and humanitarian work around the world and helped produce monthly mission news reports for the local church. She also enjoyed sewing, gardening, traveling and journaling for annual family vacations across the U.S. and in Mexico.

She is preceded in death by husband, Harold; parents Norval and Mae Dietz; brothers Arlo and Chester; and sister Ethel.

Survivors are her children and spouses: Robert Milliken of Lincoln, Paul and Holly Milliken of Novelty, Mo., Richard and Karolyn Milliken of Papillion, Marilee and Michael Hagins of Turlock, Calif., and James and June Milliken of Seoul, South Korea; her grandchildren: Leif, Jordan, Bronwyn, Mindi Ross, Shawna Miller, Kara, Ryan, Mason, Brielle Lalk, Drew, Reid, Mattie, Mi-

chal, Mercy, James Hagins and Joe Hagins; 14 great-grandchildren; sister and brother-in-law, Audrey andd Ralph Ridley of Boise, Idaho; nieces; nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

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