

DONALD MACCREARY

1902-1987

Donald MacCreary was born in Litterberry, Illinois, on November 18, 1902, and died in Newark, Delaware, June 7, 1987, at the age of 85. The family moved to Henry County, Iowa, where Mac graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School and earned a B.S. degree from Iowa Wesleyan College. While in college, he came under the influence of H. E. Jaques, head of the biology department and author and editor of a well-known series of nature books, who piqued Mac's interest in entomology. He often spoke very fondly of Dr. Jaques. He received his M.S. in entomology at the University of Maryland and joined the faculty of the University of Delaware starting as a research fellow in 1930 and being promoted to full professor in 1950.

In that year, I joined the faculty and worked there for the next 12 years. Coming as a recent Ph.D. graduate in entomology without much practical experience, Mac took me under his wing and assisted me in getting started on the right foot in his usual unselfish manner. He was especially expert in handling extension entomology, and from him I learned much about how to deal with the public's requests for assistance. He and I coauthored six scientific articles during my tenure at Delaware.

In 1942 he joined the U. S. Navy as a lieutenant and served as Malaria Control Officer in Florida and Brazil. While in Brazil, he collected many mosquito specimens and sent them to the Smithsonian Institution. They have been used

by future systematists in revisions of various groups (e.g., see Arnell 1976 *Contrib. Am. Entomol. Inst.* 13(3):1-144). He became inactive in 1945 but continued in the Naval Reserves. He rose to the rank of captain and commanded a Naval Reserve Research Company. He retired from the Navy in 1963.

Although he was responsible for the extension work in fruit, vegetable, forage and field crops insects, his great love was the medical and veterinary arthropods. He made many significant contributions to the knowledge of these groups in Delaware.

He retired from the University of Delaware in 1968 but continued his interest in entomology, helping students and staff alike. He was a member of the American Mosquito Control Association from 1954 to 1982 and an emeritus member until his death. He was also a member of the Entomological Society of America and Phi Kappa Phi fraternity. In 1947 he served on a committee of the ESA which established Section D, the medical and veterinary entomology section.

He was married to Louise King Austin, and they had one daughter, Elizabeth MacCreary Lucas, who survives him.

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