IN MEMORIAM

RALPH EUGENE ALSTON

Dr. Ralph Eugene Alston, Professor of Botany, The University of Texas, died unexpectedly February 17, 1967, of pneumonia complicated by myelofibrosis. He is survived by his parents; wife (Jean); four children, Carol (12), Robert (9), Jimmy (5) and Martha (1).

Dr. Alston was born November 27, 1925, in Richmond, Virginia. After serving in the Armed Forces in World War II, he entered the College of William and Mary, receiving a B.S. degree in 1949. He taught at William and Mary for two years (1949-1951) before completing a Ph.D. in Botany at Indiana University in 1955. Dr. Alston returned to William and Mary as an assistant professor (1954-1956). In 1956 he joined the Department of Botany, The University of Texas, where he remained, with the exception of one year, 1959-1960, which he spent at the University of Rhode Island.

Dr. Alston became Professor of Botany at the University of Texas in 1963.

Though only 41 years old at his death, Dr. Alston leaves a record of accomplishments which justly deserves recognition. Early in
his academic life, he set his course, knowing what he wanted to do and how to go about it. His research spanned all aspects of the genetics and chemistry of plant secondary compounds. His publications (more than 50 in number including two books: Biochemical Systematics and Development and Heredity, Differentiation and Biological Continuity) early focused attention on biochemical approaches to biological problems. He served on numerous national and international committees, and, at the time of his death, was secretary of the International Committee on Chemotaxonomy, a discipline to which he contributed possibly more than any other individual.

Norman Hackerman
Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Eugene Nelson
Secretary of the General Faculty

These resolutions were prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors Harold C. Bold, Chairman, Tom J. Mabry and B. L. Turner.
RALPH EUGENE ALSTON BIBLIOGRAPHY

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BOOK REVIEWS


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