

Henry R. Immerwahr

Henry R. Immerwahr, 97, emeritus professor of classics at the University of North Carolina, passed away peacefully at the Carol Woods Retirement Community on September 15, 2013 after a short illness. He is survived by his sister, Hilde Gill of London, England; his daughter, Mary (Jerry) Hiniker, of Ann Arbor, Michigan; his grandchildren, Annie Hiniker (Mike Perry), of San Francisco; Susie Hiniker (Mike Khodadoust), of Sunnyvale, California; and David Hiniker-Roosa (Alexis Hiniker), of Seattle, and by great-grandchildren Lucas and Alexander Khodadoust of Sunnyvale and Evan and Toby Hiniker of Seattle. He was predeceased by his wife of 64 years, Sara Anderson Immerwahr, and his younger brother, Vernon Ingram.

Henry R. Immerwahr was born on February 28, 1916 in Breslau, Germany (now Wroclaw, Poland), the oldest of Kurt Immerwahr and Johanna Freund Immerwahr's three children. Due to his family's Jewish heritage, he left Germany to attend the University of Florence in Italy (1934–38), where he received a Dottore in Lettere. While in Florence he was offered a fellowship to the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. There he met Sara Anderson, the fellow student and archaeologist who became his wife.

As the war in Europe erupted, Henry immigrated to the United States, where he spent two years as a graduate student at Yale (PhD 1942) before serving in the US Army. After the war, he taught at Yale for ten years, and in 1957, joined the Classics Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as Professor of Greek. In 1977, he was appointed Director of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. He returned to Chapel Hill in 1982, and, as an Emeritus Professor, continued to be active in Classics Department affairs.

His scholarly work absorbed him throughout his life, starting with an inspiring teacher in his German high school and continuing until his death. His monograph, *Form and Thought in Herodotus*, was published in 1966 and *Attic Script: A Survey* in 1990. He established an online version of the Corpus of Attic Vase Inscriptions. He was the author of numerous scholarly articles written over the course of his career, including five articles written and published while he was in his 90s.

He was devoted to his wife, Sara Anderson Immerwahr (known as Sally), and they shared many scholarly interests and colleagues. When Sally began to suffer from various physical ailments late in life, Henry took care of her so they could continue their companionship and life together. They were well-known at Carol Woods, the elderly professor pushing his more animated wife in her wheelchair or making Sunday dinners for her in his apartment.

Henry was also a wonderful father to his daughter Mary, father-in-law to her husband Jerry, and grandfather to his grandchildren. He was a devoted brother to Hilde and Vernon and placed great value on "the family." The Immerwahrs spent their summers on Chebeague Island, Maine, roughing it in a cottage in the woods. While there, Henry and Sally enthusiastically took up boating and sailing, and relished the challenges of kerosene stoves, cold ocean water, and growing vegetables in a short growing season. They enjoyed the long visits of Mary, Jerry, and the grandchildren in the summers.

Henry Immerwahr was a much-loved and special man, with many interests and an engaging sense of humor. He had great personal determination and considered himself a very lucky person. He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends, and his colleagues.

A Memorial is planned at Carol Woods Retirement Community at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2013. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American School of Classical Studies in Athens or the Carol Woods Charitable Fund.