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OBITUARY

FRITZ MARTI, PHILOSOPHER, DIES AT 97 IN TUCSON, ARIZONA

Professor Fritz Marti passed away in his sleep November 23, 1991, in Tucson, Arizona, where he lived with a daughter since 1987. He would have been 98 years old on January 1st. Born in Winterthur, Switzerland in 1894, Marti served in the Swiss Army during the First World War as an engineer and as an intelligence officer in England at the war's outset, preventing German nationals from returning to Germany under the guise of Swiss citizenship. He took his Doctorate of Philosophy at the University of Bern in 1922 and came to the United States that year to teach at the University of Oregon.

During an academic career spanning 56 years he taught successively at Hollins College, Goucher College, The Johns Hopkins University, The University of Maryland (where he served as Chairman during World War II and designed courses and trained "90-Day Wonders" to be officers in the U.S. Armed Forces), The University of Chicago, Marietta College, Antioch College, Hiram College and, after retirement, at Washington University, St. Louis and at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville until he was 82.

He was an expert in Post Kantian German Idealism and was best known for a number of books and papers on the philosophy of Schelling. He also wrote on topics of education and aesthetics.

During the 1940's he founded (with his wife Gertrude Austin who died in 1984) the Berglihof School of Ohio. The school moved to Dayton in 1956 as The Marti School, a college preparatory, and was subsequently named Miami Valley Country Day School after Fritz and Gertrude retired in the early 1960's.

On his retirement from Southern Illinois University in 1976, the University established The Annual Fritz Marti Lecture in his honor. While he lived in South Bend, Indiana, from 1976 to 1986 he donated his extensive philosophic library to the Philosophy Department at the University of Notre Dame, with whose faculty he engaged in lively dialogue. The library is now housed in the Fritz Marti Reading Room to the benefit of faculty and students.

He is survived by six children: Dr. Judith Marti Baumrin, a New York psychologist; Ursula Ferro, a Maryland educator; Michael Felix Marti, a Colorado home designer and builder; Dr. Verena Farber, Professor of Slavic Languages, Oregon State University; Moira Marti Geoffrion, Professor of Art, University of Arizona; and Rebecca Etue-Marti, a Virginia educator. There are also eight grandchildren.

Contributions in the name of Fritz Marti may be sent to the Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556.