

In Memoriam

With profound regret the International Institute for the Study of Religions announces the death of its first two directors, the Rev. Dr. William P. Woodard, Director from 1956 to 1966, and Fr. Wilhelm Schiffer, S. J., Director from 1966 to 1972. Fr. Schiffer reportedly died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Bonn, West Germany on November 17, 1972 at the age of 58, Dr. Woodard of pneumonia following a stroke in Pomona, California on February 19, 1973 at the age of 76.

Both men made noteworthy contributions during their many years of service as Christian missionaries in Japan. We shall miss them deeply.

William P. Woodard

- September 10, 1896 Born in Kalamazoo, Michigan
- 1918 B. A., Kalamazoo College
- 1921 B. D., Union Theological Seminary, New York. First came to Japan
- 1924–41 Missionary work in Hokkaido, Osaka, Tokyo, China, and Korea
- 1929 M. A., University of Chicago
- 1941 Left Japan
- 1945 Returned to Japan with the Occupation as an interpreter
- 1946–48 Military service with the Religions Research Unit, Analysis and Research Division, Civil Information and Education Section, SCAP
- 1948–52 Chief of the Special Projects and Research Branch of the Religions and Cultural Resources Division, Civil Information and Education Section, SCAP
- 1956–66 Missionary appointment as Research Director of the International Institute for the Study of Religions
- 1960–66 Editor of *Contemporary Religions in Japan*
- 1961 D. D., Kalamazoo College
- 1966–72 Lecturer in Japanese religions at Claremont Graduate School
- 1972 Published *The Allied Occupation of Japan 1945–1952 and Japanese Religions*
- February 19, 1973 Died in Pomona Valley Community Hospital, Pomona, California



William P. Woodard

1896-1973

Wilhelm Schiffer

- July 17, 1914 Born in rural community near Stolberg, Germany
- 1933 Became a novice in the Society of Jesus
- 1935–36 Studied at Jesuit philosophical academy, Pullach
- 1936–38 Philosophical study at Sophia University, Tokyo
- 1938–40 Assisted in editing *Monumenta Nipponica*
- 1940–44 Theological study at Jesuit seminary in Shanghai
- 1942 Ordained as a priest
- 1944–47 Taught at Maryknoll Academy, Dairen
- 1947 Returned to Sophia University, Tokyo to teach Oriental philosophy and religions
- 1949–50 Spiritual training at Nagatsuka near Hiroshima
- 1950 Appointed professor of religion, philosophy, and Oriental philosophy at Sophia University
- 1951 Became editor of *Monumenta Nipponica*
- 1965, 1966 President of the Asiatic Society of Japan
- 1966–72 Research Director of the International Institute for the Study of Religions and editor of *Contemporary Religions in Japan*
- 1968 Co-translated, with Chidō Takeda, Nikkyō Niwano's *Travel to Infinity*
- 1970 Co-translated, with Kōjirō Miyasaka and Howard B. Gilman, Nikkyō Niwano's *The Lotus Sutra : Life and Soul of Buddhism*
- 1971 Revised, with Yoshirō Tamura, Bunnō Katō's translation of *Myōhō-rengē-kyō : The Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wonderful Law*.
- November 17, 1972 Died in Marien Hospital, Bonn, West Germany



Wilhelm Schiffer

1914-1972