



Dr. Russell W. Strandtmann

Family and friends mourn the passing of Dr. Russell William Strandtmann on August 7, 1996, at his home in Maxwell, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Otto Strandtmann and Frieda Schultz Strandtmann, a brother, Norman Ernst, and a grandson, Loren Otto.

Dr. Strandtmann was born in Maxwell on April 9, 1910. He graduated from Maxwell High School in 1928. He received a bachelor of science in biology from Southwest Texas State University in 1935, a master of science in entomology from Texas A&M University in 1937, and a doctorate of philosophy in entomology from Ohio State University in 1944. He taught in the public schools of Fayette County (1931-1933), at East Texas State University at Commerce (1937-1943), the University of Texas School of Medicine at Galveston (1944-1948), SWTSU at San Marcos (1949), The Audubon Society Texas Camp at Kerrville (1950), Duke University (1953), the University of Maryland (1954, 1956, and 1958), and the University of Hawaii (1963-1964). He joined the biology faculty at Texas Tech University in 1948, where he was named a Paul Whitfield Horn Professor in 1973. He retired from Texas Tech University in 1975 and returned to San Marcos, where he was appointed a Senior Visiting Professor at SWTSU in 1977.

Dr. Strandtmann was an internationally recognized acarologist who did early exploratory work on soil arthropods of polar regions. His primary research interests were in the biology and taxonomy of mites, particularly the parasitic mesostigmata. His was the first comprehensive study of South Polar entomology; it was published as a chapter in the book *Entomology of Antarctica*. Mount Strandtmann, in Antarctica, is named in his honor. He authored 94 scientific publications and co-authored a book of popular interest, *Wildflowers of the Llano Estacado*. He was a member of the Entomological Society of America, the Southwestern Entomological Society of America, the American Society of Parasitologists, and Sigma Xi Honorary Society. He was a charter member of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists.

He often commented that his love of nature stemmed from the indulgence of his father, who never found fault with him for running after butterflies when he was supposed to be chopping cotton as a boy on their black-land farm.

Dr. Strandtmann is survived by his

wife of 60 years, Mary Ruth Chance Strandtmann; two sons, Russell Lamar of Juneau, Alaska, and Spurgeon Bruce of Maxwell, Texas; two granddaughters and one great-granddaughter.

A memorial service will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 11, 1996, at the Maxwell Social Club.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to Hospice of Central Texas, Home Health Care of Central Texas, or the charity of your choice.

Arrangements with Eeds Funeral Home, 408 South Main Street, Lockhart, Texas 78644. (512) 398-2343.