

ARTHUR HUGH MATTHEWS

1933-2002

A.H.M.

Arthur Hugh Matthews, lifelong journalist and stalwart of the conservative movement within Presbyterianism, was just three weeks short of his 70th birthday when he died during the last few days of 2002.

A native of Louisiana, where he started as a reporter for the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk*, he was encouraged by his friend G. Aiken Taylor to join the staff of the *Presbyterian Journal*, a magazine founded in 1942 by L. Nelson Bell and based in Asheville. He served as assistant editor of that weekly magazine from 1961 until 1972.

In 1972, Arthur became chief press representative for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, traveling widely with the international evangelist and his team. In 1975, he became associate editor of *Christianity Today*, helping anchor that magazine's news office in Washington, D.C.

In 1978, Arthur was appointed news officer for the new Presbyterian Church in America, and editor of that denomination's official magazine, *The PCA Messenger*.

Finally, in 1988, Arthur returned to Asheville to become senior editor of *World* magazine. He retired from that position in 1994.

But he wasn't through writing. He authored *Standing Up, Standing Together*, the official history of the National Association of Evangelicals, published on the NAE's 50th anniversary.

Arthur was a 1955 graduate of Louisiana Tech University, where he established a record of continuously editing the student newspaper for three and a half years. After graduation, he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

Never married, Arthur is survived by his brother Neill Matthews and his wife Dorrie of Shreveport, La.; his sister Craig Lyon of Lookout Mountain, Ga.; and his sister-in-law Val Matthews, of New Orleans.

PALLBEARERS include the elders of Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church (Joel Belz, Norm Bomer, Scott Carter, Mike Cate, Rob Cook, Terry Elniff, Jerry Golden, Gordon Meiners, and Steve Walton); members of the "ROMEO" group with which Arthur met regularly each week for breakfast (Stan Bean, Bill Dillingham, Charles Edwards, Bob Graham, Bob LeClerg, Mike Littlejohn, Phil McGeoch, Howard McKenna, Dick Skyfield); and his good friend Ken Maultsby.

MEMORIAL GIFTS, in lieu of flowers, should be designated for the Puritan Project, a publishing ministry in Brazil in which Arthur had a keen personal interest. Such gifts may be made through Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church, Box 8953, Asheville NC 28814.