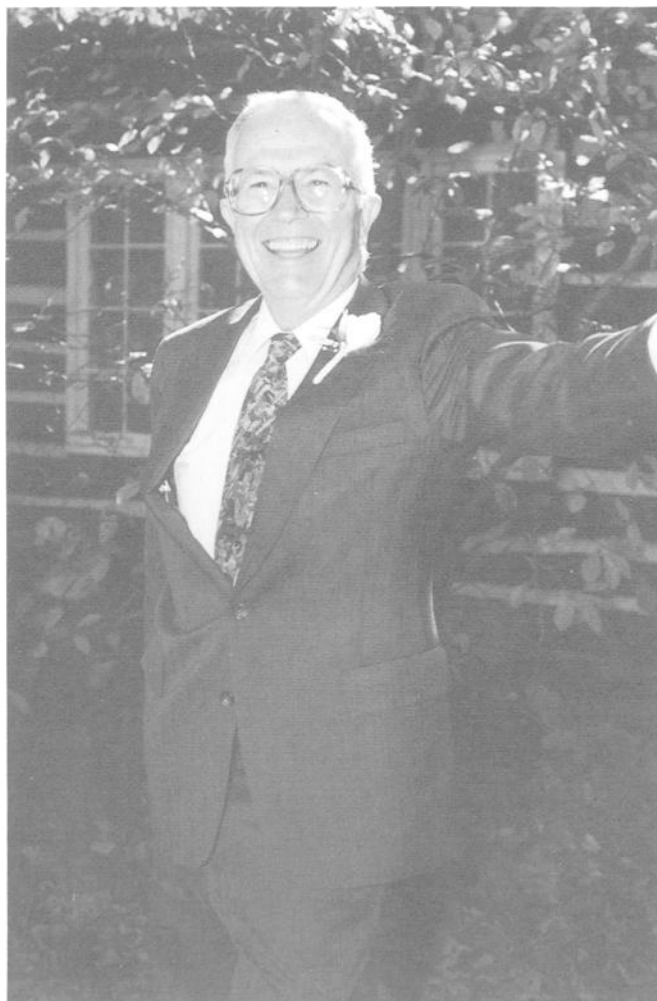


SYMPOSIUM: PAPERS HONORING WILLIAM M. BASS, Ph.D., BY HIS STUDENTS



William M. Bass, Ph.D.

This symposium was organized and edited by P. Willey, Ph.D., Department of Anthropology, California State University, Chico, CA 95929-0400, and R. L. Jantz, Ph.D., Department of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0720.

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There are few times in our careers when we have an opportunity to express our gratitude and indebtedness to those who have influenced our intellectual and professional development. These papers represent a welcome opportunity to do just that for a premier forensic anthropologist.

Bill Bass's contribution to the development of modern forensic anthropology is broad and deep. It spans a period of 40 years, beginning in 1954 when he was introduced to forensic anthropology as a graduate student by the late Charles E. Snow at the University of Kentucky. This early casework was followed by

extensive research in forensic anthropology which in turn led to the training of many students.

As Bill begins retirement, we, his students, pause to honor his contributions to the field and to acknowledge our own indebtedness. All of us have benefited from our association with Bill, first as students, and later as professionals, and colleagues. Bill piqued our interest in forensic anthropology and for many of us, our interest in physical anthropology itself. In all instances he taught us much through his exhaustive graduate course in forensic anthropology techniques and through hands-on crime scene recoveries and subsequent skeletal analyses.

This series of papers began as a special day-long symposium titled "Symposium in Honor of William M. Bass by His Students," held in the Physical Anthropology Section at the 46th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, February 18, 1994, in San Antonio, Texas. All of his students, past and

present, were invited to present a paper in his honor. Altogether there were 22 papers presented to a standing-room-only crowd. The papers spanned the full range of Bill's interests, including skeletal recovery, race, stature, decomposition and time since death, and perimortem events.

The papers presented here were drawn from those presented at the AAFS symposium. They are published here to honor Bill and

his long and illustrious career. We wish him well in his "retirement," which we are certain will see him continuing to conduct research, applying that work to help resolve forensic anthropology questions, and training students to conduct their own research and apply to the betterment of forensic science.

P. Willey and R. L. Jantz