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30-Year EIU Music Prof Earl. Boyd Dies Thursday

Charleston Times-Courier
CHARLESTON — Dr. Earl W. Boyd, a professor of music at Eastern Illinois University for 30 years, died Thursday of cancer.

Dr. Boyd, 59, of 535 Ashby Drive died at 5:10 p.m. at Mercy Hospital in Champaign.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at the First Presbyterian Church, the Rev. John Dodson officiating. Friends may call from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the Harper-Swickard Funeral Home. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery of Mattoon.

Joining the EIU music staff in 1947, Boyd held the Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts from the University of Wisconsin. He held the Ph. D. from the State University of Iowa.

Before he came to Eastern he was band and orchestra director at Wisconsin State College in Whitewater. Prior to that he was band and orchestra director at a high school in Edgerton, Wis.

A clarinetist, Boyd was formerly the concertmaster of the University of Wisconsin concert band. He played with the University of Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra and with the Madison, Wisc. Civic Symphony.

He also played with the State University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra and the EIU Symphony Orchestra, which he directed at one time.

A member of several professional organizations, Boyd had published a number of articles in professional music journals.

Boyd was born Oct. 1, 1918 in Manitowac, Wis., a son of Edwin A. and Freeda Wulfsonerg Boyd. He was married to Muriel Culham in 1941 in Stoughton, Wis. She survives.

Other survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Duane (Beverly) McDavid of Westfield, Ind. and Mrs. Michael (Joanne) Hartley of Kansas City, Kan.; three sisters, Mrs. Marian Thorpe of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., Mrs. Swanne Dudley of Tulsa, Okla., and Miss Lillian Boyd of Manitowac; four brothers, Rufin of Manitowac, Maurice of Oswego, N.Y., Francis of Chicago and Gordon of Springfield; and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one brother.

Boyd was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and the Charleston Country Club and a veteran of World War II. Memorial donations may be made to either the Cancer Fund or the First Presbyterian Church.