



NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame

Danney G. Goble and Odie B. Faulk

By Linda D. Wilson

Since 1993 the Oklahoma Historical Society has annually honored up to four individuals, both professional and amateur, in its Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. Recipients are selected on the basis of their contributions to the preservation, collection, interpretation, and dissemination of Oklahoma history. This criteria was first published in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 72 (Summer 1994).

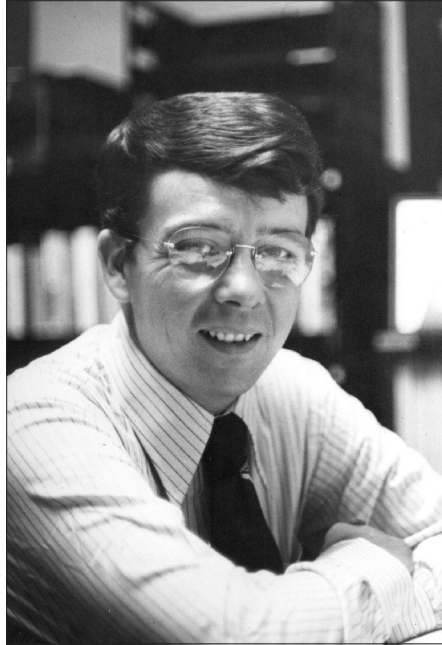
Early honorees included Grant Foreman, Joseph B. Thoburn, Muriel H. Wright, Edward Everett Dale, and Angie Debo. In addition to historians, the award has been bestowed on artist Charles Banks Wilson, Cherokee genealogist Emmet Starr, author John Joseph Mathews, and Apache leader and educator Mildred Imach Cleghorn. The inductees are honored at the Awards Banquet held during the Oklahoma Historical Society's Annual Meeting in April each year. In April 2008 Danney Goble (posthumously), Odie B. Faulk, Lawrence Hart, and Bob Klemme were inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. Goble and Faulk are featured in this issue of *The Chronicles*, and Hart and Klemme will appear in the Summer 2008 issue.

Danney G. Goble

Danney Glenn Goble, Oklahoma author and historian, taught at several Oklahoma universities and colleges after completing his doctorate at the University of Missouri in 1976. Goble was born in Stillwater in 1946. His parents were Glen Charles and Anna Louise Smith Goble. The family moved to Edmond, where he claimed that his interest in history was influenced by a high school teacher and

THE CHRONICLES OF OKLAHOMA

*Danney
Goble
(Courtesy photo).*



where he attended Central State University (now the University of Central Oklahoma). He completed his master's degree in 1969 at the University of Oklahoma.

In 1990 Goble collaborated with former U.S. Speaker of the House Carl Albert and wrote *Little Giant: The Life and Times of Speaker Carl Albert*, which was submitted by its publisher for a Pulitzer Prize. That year Goble joined the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center located on the University of Oklahoma campus. His book *Progressive Oklahoma: The Making of a New Kind of State* (1980) remains a classic. Other major publications include *Oklahoma Politics: A History*, coauthored with James R. Scales, and a high school textbook, *The Story of Oklahoma*, coauthored with W. David Baird. His *Tulsa! The Biography of an American City* and the *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma*, fourth edition, coauthored with Charles Robert Goins, were Oklahoma Book Award finalists.

Goble's talent extended beyond the classroom. He enjoyed portraying Confederate General James Longstreet, Louisiana Governor Huey Long, and Defense Attorney Clarence Darrow in Tulsa's and Great Plains summer Chautauquas. He also worked as an ex-

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

tra in the movies *Tex* (1982), *The Outsiders* (1983), and *Rumblefish* (1983), all based on Oklahoma-born author S. E. Hinton's young adult novels. Goble served as a historical consultant and portrayed University of Oklahoma President George Lynn Cross in the 1987 premier of James Vance's play *The Halls of Ivory*, the story of integration at the university. Goble also performed consultant services for documentaries produced by WGBH (Boston) and OETA (Oklahoma Educational Television Authority).

Before his death on March 8, 2007, at the age of sixty, Danney Goble was a professor of classics and letters at the University of Oklahoma. Those who knew him will miss his combined qualities of intellect, humor, humility, and generosity. He was survived by his wife, Constance "Connie" Murray Goble, his children, Codie, Geoffrey, Hannah, and Grant, his stepson Daniel Triston Murray Sublette, and grandchildren. For his scholarly works and many contributions to Oklahoma history the Oklahoma Historical Society names Goble to the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

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"Zane Grey's West." Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1969.

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NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

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Odie B. Faulk

Author and historian Odie B. Faulk, son of Joseph Butler and Leta Verna Bilbreath Faulk, was born on August 26, 1933, in Winnsboro, Texas. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1950 to 1955, he returned to Texas and received a bachelor's degree from Texas Technological College (now Texas Tech University) in 1958. Faulk continued his education at Texas Tech, obtaining a master's degree in 1960 and a doctorate in 1962. During his college days he married Laura Ella Whalen, and they had two children, Richard Douglas and Nancy Marie.

Faulk started his teaching career in the Lubbock Public Schools. In the early to mid-1960s he was a history instructor at Texas A&M University and University of Arizona. Then he became a professor at Oklahoma State University, where he was chair of the history department from 1972 to 1977. From 1978 to 2002 Faulk worked as the editor and publisher of Western Heritage Books in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

In addition to teaching and writing Faulk served on the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors from 1977 to 1991. He has been an editorial consultant, a reader, or a member of the board of editors for numerous journals such as *Great Plains Journal*, *Red River Valley Historical Review*, and *San Diego State University Publications in American Indian Studies*. Three of Faulk's works, *Land of Many Frontiers* (1968), *North America Divided* (1971), and *Home of the Brave* (1976) were submitted by their publishers for the Pulitzer Prize. In 1972 *North America Divided: The War With Mexico, 1846–1848* was submitted by its publisher for a Pulitzer Prize and later won the Best Western Non-Fiction Book of the Year from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame (now National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum). For his scholarly works and many contributions to Oklahoma history the Oklahoma Historical Society names Faulk to the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

THE CHRONICLES OF OKLAHOMA

*Odie
Faulk
(Courtesy
photo).*



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