

IN MEMORIAM
ALLEN L. MAYERSON
(1925-1971)

Allen L. Mayerson, Professor of Insurance and Actuarial Mathematics at the University of Michigan, died on September 11, 1971 at the age of forty-six. During the last several years of his life Professor Mayerson knew that he had cancer but with a fortitude characteristic of the man, he concealed this fact from all but a few close relatives and friends. Professor Mayerson leaves as a widow the former Dorli Baenninger of Zurich, Switzerland, who was his constant companion at home and on many of his frequent travels.

Allen Mayerson had wide-ranging interests. He had a world-wide reputation as an actuary. In addition, he was an accomplished linguist being sufficiently fluent in French and Spanish to deliver papers in those languages to European audiences. He made frequent trips to Europe, Israel and South America and was a member of actuarial organizations in Great Britain, France, Spain and Switzerland.

In his native United States he had served on the Board of Governors of the Society of Actuaries, the Council of the Casualty Actuarial Society, as President of the Michigan Actuarial Society and Vice President of the American Academy of Actuaries.

Professor Mayerson was born in Brooklyn (New York City) and was graduated with a major in mathematics from the University of Michigan at the age of 19, having been elected to Phi Beta Kappa (a distinguished honor society for American universities). From 1944 to 1946 he served as an officer in the United States Navy. Following the war he returned to the University of Michigan and obtained a Master's degree in actuarial mathematics. From 1947 to 1949 he worked in statistics and research at the Institute of Life Insurance and from 1949 to 1951 served as actuary of the National Surety Corporation. In 1951 he was appointed Principal Life Actuary of the New York State Insurance Department, serving in this capacity until 1956. (During this period he was on leave for one year and studied at the University of Paris on a Fulbright Scholarship.)

In 1956 Allen Mayerson returned to the University of Michigan with the dual appointment as Assistant Professor of Insurance in the Graduate School of Business Administration and Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the College of Literature, Science and Arts. Professor Mayerson remained in this capacity until his death except for the years from 1963 to 1966 when he served as Insurance Commissioner of the State of Michigan. Allen was almost certainly the only Insurance Commissioner in the United States history to be a Fellow of both the Life and Casualty actuarial organizations.

Professor Mayerson was the author of a number of outstanding articles in actuarial publications. He is particularly remembered in the United States for his works on the subject of Credibility. He is already deeply missed by his colleagues in the United States.

CHARLES C. HEWITT, JR.