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IN MEMORY OF DR. MARSHALL N. FULTON

Dr. M.N. Fulton—A Friend To Many

By GEE AERTSEN
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Marshall N. Fulton, formerly a trustee of Roger Williams College, is remembered by those who knew him as being a personable, thoughtful man who had great leadership qualities. He died on the evening of Monday, May 16 in Denver, Colorado while visiting his children. Dr. Fulton was the husband of Mary Howe (DeWolf) Fulton. He lived with his wife on Monkey Wrench Lane in Bristol. Dr. Fulton was born in Keokuk, Iowa. He was 78.

A long time friend of many, Dr. Fulton was a member of the Roger Williams Board of Trustees, elected on January 19, 1971. Since then, he was Chairman of the Honorary Degree Committee for three years, member of the Building Committee, Development Committee, and the Membership Committee. It has been said that he had great influence on the college and that he made it a point to attend events of the college.

A Very Busy Man

After graduating from Brown University in 1920 with a Bachelor of Science Degree where he was selected as a Rhodes Scholar, Dr. Fulton then went on to Oxford University for three years. He came back to the United States and attended Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore where he graduated in 1925 with his M.D.

For over 20 years, he practiced medicine as an internist in Providence. From 1948 to 1965, Dr.

Fulton was Physician-in-Chief the Department of Medicine at Rhode Island Hospital.

During World War II, he was a Colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1942 to 1946. He was also Chief of Medical Services at Valley Forge Medical Hospital and Chief of Medical Services at Ashford General Hospital in White Sulphur Springs West Virginia. Dr. Fulton was the chief of the cardiovascular section of Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington and he received the Army's Legion of Merit in 1946.

Reportedly, when he was serving in West Virginia, one of his patients was Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Before he retired from practicing medicine, Dr. Fulton belonged to the American College of Physicians. For three years, he was Chairman of the Board of Governors, Regent of the College, and Vice President.

Friends Remember

One of his many friends remembers, "his thoughtfulness and leadership. He was a well organized person. He was personable, he liked people."

Another close friend reminisced by saying the Dr. Fulton, "had a strong sense of right and wrong. There were very few gray areas" to him. "He liked people, he had friends all over the world."

Another friend said that, "nothing was impossible to him. Maybe it was characteristic of where he came from. As far as the college goes, his top quality is one

of integrity. I don't know anybody who represented that more!"

Other qualities that were characteristic of Dr. Fulton were self sufficiency and "just enjoying life."

Two of his favorite hobbies were music and collecting flags. Whenever he traveled, he would collect flags from all of the cities he visited. His favorite type of music



Dr. Marshall N. Fulton

was classical. Reportedly, he picked up much of his taste for classical music at Oxford.

Dr. Fulton was also involved with St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Bristol where he was a member of the Vestry.

He leaves his wife and eight children, six daughters and two sons: Mrs. Edith Weeks of Denver, Mrs. Robert S. Fisher of Hingham,

Mass., Mary Jewett Fulton of Boston, Mme. Bernard Bragard of Menton, France, and Katherine and Holly Fulton, undergraduates at the University of Vermont and Colorado College respectively, DeWolf Fulton, a graduate student and teacher in Colorado, and Frank Fulton of Newport. Dr. Fulton also leaves five grandchildren.

Ferrycliffe Farm Revisited

Ed. Note: The following is reprinted from an article as it appeared in the March 1976 edition of the R.W.C. Alumni Newsletter. The QUILL would like to thank the editors of the newsletter for the use of this invaluable collection of information.

With the Mount Hope Bridge gracing the view, the Roger Williams College Campus, now seven years old, is seen in a tranquil setting, one of the most beautiful in Rhode

Island. Its land is on a small cliff that was once part of Ferrycliffe Farm, overlooking Mount Hope Bay. The College had the fortunate opportunity to acquire sixty-three of Ferrycliffe's one hundred thirty acres in 1965 from Mrs. Mary Howe DeWolf Fulton and Dr. Marshall Nairne Fulton. Although the Bristol Campus is much younger than the College, whose beginnings can be traced as far back as 1919 in Providence, the new campus has a

unique claim to an interesting history of its land.

Ferrycliffe Farm dates back to 1877 when the property was purchased and named by Mrs. Fulton's grandfather, Dr. Herbert Marshall Howe who was both a practicing physician and artist. Dr. Howe purchased the land from H.B. Bowen for twenty thousand dollars.

Family heirlooms dating back to Dr. Howe's time illustrate his devotion to Ferrycliffe. An 1893 map marks the boundaries of the property, and also shows a special row of trees that were intended to shade the drive of the new home Dr. Howe had hoped to build. Although his new home was never built, these trees may still be seen south of the College pond among a newer growth of trees and underbrush.

According to Dr. Howe's map, the original fields bordering Ferry Road were much broader. In 1956 when Ferry Road was widened, the family sold additional property to the State to save the trees that once edged the western land. Now part of a median strip, these trees still shade Ferry Road and are part of a colorful seascape as one drives by the College approaching the Mount Hope Bridge in autumn.

As part of the road widening, the State moved back the original



THE MAIN ENTRANCE, as it is seen today, was refurbished this spring in the same form as the original entrance looked like to Ferrycliffe Farm. MRS. FULTON has said that DR. FULTON was 'happy' with the recent reconstruction.

stone wall and the beehive stone posts still seen as one enters the College gate. Once removed, these handsome looking posts were only recently restored with the lovely rustic symmetry that they once had.

Metacom Avenue was to later cut across the Farm's best eighteen acre front field leaving an unusable portion west of the new road opposite the Nike Site. This section has since been sold to a developer while east of it and Metacom Avenue is the College's northern parking lot, also part of the original front field.

The Nike Site property and its history is linked to General Burnside whose summer residence once stood southeast of the Site.

Fragments of the house once belonging to the Union General Governor of Rhode Island, an United States Senator may still be visible amidst leaves and underbrush.

Using the College's main gate as an exit, one can cross Ferry Road turn left, pace about one hundred feet, and still see on his right the drive that led to the main house where the Howes resided ever summer between 1865 and 1925. Fragments of the house known as the "Homestead" also remain. A rambling Victorian building, it was of New England character due to weathered shingles and a large porch which surrounded it on three sides. Lush green vines covered it



FERRYCLIFFE FARM as it was in the early 1950's. The 60 acre farm dates back to 1877. It was a working farm where the usual chores were milking the cows, seasonal cutting and pitching of hay, bringing in of corn crops and the general care and harvest of the garden.

EDITORIAL

By GEE AERTSEN
Editor-in-Chief

I was honored to know Dr. Fulton, yet only for a brief four years. However, those four years were enhanced greatly by his friendship. When I came to Bristol and Roger Williams as a very confused freshman, it was the Fultons who put me at ease very quickly. At that time, I knew absolutely no one in the Rhode Island area very well, yet I felt at home as a result of this friendship.

Over the next few years, that friendship helped to remind me that this college does contain hope for the future because at the end of my sophomore year, I was planning on leaving Roger Williams over the political flap at the college at that time. It was Dr. Fulton who took me by his side in front of the old dorm and told me not to leave because everything would be all right. I took his advice and came back the following semester to find the college back in a tranquil state with such worries as the losing of accreditation fading away.

His advice not only helped this student weather the occurrences on campus at that time, but other things as well.

Over the next two years I was unfortunately out of contact with the Fultons because of my total involvement on campus yet I knew that they were there if I needed them.

I have learned many beautiful facts about Dr. Fulton in the past few days that I had never known before doing this story. I learned just how truly modest Dr. Fulton was. In talking with a few of his local friends, many were unable to tell me, completely, about Dr. Fulton because he had never fully revealed himself to them. Each friend had a somewhat different aspect of him to relate, yet when asked to elaborate on facets that I knew about, they often said, "I did not know that." However, there were impressions which they all had which were the same. Some of these were that Dr. Fulton was very personable, that he was a great leader and that he was a fine doctor. I am sure that there are much more.

Reality seems to dictate that there is never enough time for friends to fully and truly know each other. For Dr. Fulton, I wish I had known him better!

Spirit Will Remain

There is a prayer for the state of Rhode Island which begins, "Praise be to Thee, O God, for the little prism where men have seen the splendor of thy glory****". It is a beautiful prayer and continued in paraphrase seems an appropriate way to express our gratitude, admiration and affection for Marshall Fulton. "****in the life of a man who ventured to settle in the coastal town where a college was planted in open companionship and none are barred; by the sparkling bay where spirit grows because nourished in compassion and truth and integrity."

Dr. Fulton loved Roger Williams College and served faithfully for many years as a trustee and committee chairman. He believed ardently in its future and in the contributions its graduates would bring to their own communities throughout the country. Those of us who knew him are fortunate and

even we are not fully aware of his many accomplishments and of the countless honors bestowed upon him throughout a long, vigorous and productive life. When he spoke, it was not about himself, but about the achievements of others and about his hopes for our younger generations. Marshall Fulton ran the race right up to the wire: a magnificent finish to an outstanding career. As his spirit will remain with us, so, nearby will continue to live his wonderful wife, Mary Howe, and with her, from time to time their devoted sons and daughters.

Harold Payson

Will Be Missed

I was very sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Fulton. His love for Roger Williams College permeated through all those activities that brought him into direct contact with the College.

He was always generous with his time and with himself. I still remember how he and his wife offered us the temporary use of their lovely home in Bristol to house some dormitory students two years ago when the College was confronted with a housing problem. Last year he again allowed us to use his home for the reception prior to the Honorary Degree dinner.

More recently, when the College had a Sunday Open House, he came to see the exhibits and to meet potential students. This visit was most typical of him. He was always interested and concerned. His role as a Board member was taken most conscientiously.

All of us will miss him.

William H. Rizzini
Acting President

Respect & Affection Seen

Dr. Fulton was a man of stout heart and brilliant mind. He had the respect and affection of all who had the good fortune of knowing him and being exposed to his pleasant and magnetic personality.

FARM—From One

sides and porch columns. The "Homestead," however, was not located on the Ferrycliffe Farm property.

The original farmhouse still exists and is located east of Metacorn Avenue at the end of the College's main entrance, its former drive. Tall elms once shaded the long drive, but were destroyed by the Dutch Elm Disease. The grey and white farmhouse is rather curious-looking because of a tower attached to one end. This was a more recent addition used to board as many as four workmen when the Farm was in full operation. The managing farmer resided in the house as Enzy

A 'Renaissance Man'

As we are now diminished by the death of Marshall Fulton, so we were enriched by his life. He was the epitome of the ideal Renaissance man of the fifteenth century with his remarkable combination of intelligence, inquisitive spirit, happy versatility, appreciation of beauty, acute sensitivity, understanding of man's unique spirit and creativity, and *joie de vivre*; he was truly a "Christian humanist." A physician respected in both local and national medical circles, he was the beloved doctor who truly cared about sick people. His skill, optimism, competence, and quiet assurance wrought a healing as important in its way as that produced by modern drugs and therapy. The secret of his success was not just a fine training in science and medicine at Brown, Oxford, Johns Hopkins, and hospitals in Boston; it was his uncanny sense and understanding of man's complex nature. He would always say that he could determine the state of one's illness by visiting the sick room and examining the face of the patient. The great Sir William Osler was his exemplar, and therefore how fitting it was that but a few days before his death Marshall Fulton had delivered a paper on Sir William and Lady Osler

at the annual meeting of the Osler Society held at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

But Marshall Fulton was much more than a physician. He was also a gifted musician. His fellow Rhodes Scholars at Oxford have never forgotten the way he played the piano in the common rooms of that ancient institution. He could play and sing most of Gilbert and Sullivan from memory. At meetings of local societies he would interpret by words and music his favorite composer Brahms. Marshall Fulton seated at the piano was always a delight. He took an active and lively interest in books, good food and wine, flags flying for every occasion, games of the Boston Red Sox, and stimulating conversation. Every good cause could count him among its generous patrons. As a traveling companion, whether in Europe or America, he was unmatched; in good or foul weather he was ready for the next adventure, and the lure of Mozart's Salzburg beckoned him to the end.

A few words cannot do justice to a Renaissance man, but as one who knew and loved him, I can say that Marshall Fulton was the *magister vitae*, the wise man who could teach men how to live. Like St. Augustine, he loved to be loved,

but he would also have said along with Abou Ben Adhem, awaking one night from "a deep dream of peace" and speaking to an angel, "I pray thee, then, write me as one that loves his fellow men."

Bryce Lyon

Barnaby Conrad and Mary Critchfield Keeny Professor of History
Brown University

Friend & Mentor

Marshall Fulton, whom it was my privilege and abiding joy to know, if only for too short a time, was a contemporary "Renaissance Man." His enormous intellectual capacities were nurtured in the best Academic traditions of the liberating Arts and Sciences at Brown University and as Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. His medical education at Johns Hopkins University enabled him to combine professional knowledge and skills with the goody heritage of liberal learning so that his patients, and his friends, were healed in body and spirit and made incomparably richer for his presence in our lives.

Dr. Fulton's services to our society and to Roger Williams College which he served superbly are documented elsewhere. Whether as Physician, Trustee, volunteer worker Dr. Fulton gave of his time and talents, always freely and without stint of enthusiasm or energy.

He was a man of principle and bedrock integrity, who integrated the scientist's allegiance to demonstrable fact with the humanist love and understanding of literature, music, history, and art. A conversation with Marshall Fulton was always both intellectual adventure and delight. Seldom have I learned so much, informally, from a born-teacher-scholar who, almost surely, did not realize how much he taught, even in casual conversation.

Commitment to excellence, devotion to the right as God gave him to see the right, conviction, compassion, concern, wit, humor, and unquenchable *joie de vivre*, and a masterful ability to play and sing Gilbert and Sullivan—these are among my indelible memories of and a living legacy from Marshall Fulton.

Miss Virginia V. Sides

A Tribute

Dr. Marshall Fulton welcomed me into the intimacy of his family circle and we developed a close personal friendship. He had a presence. His experience and knowledge gave him insight into many things. I have memories of nice moments when his warmth and generosity of spirit engulfed me with well-being and our minds meditated aloud in a sharing of feelings, awarenesses and ideas. I live more fully because he gave of himself to me.

Roger Williams College has benefited from the efforts of Dr. Fulton. When he had the responsibility of an assignment on its behalf, the research was complete, the viewpoints of others were solicited and summarized, and the homework was thoroughly done. He loved the college and desired to see it flourish and succeed. The college community has gained from the dreams this good man had and his willingness to work to make them come true.

Alfred J. Shepherd

book of pictures accompanied by suitable comments and quotations. After several meetings with the Fultons in order to discuss the use of the land, the college finally acquired sixty-three acres of Ferrycliffe in 1965.



DR. MARSHALL FULTON is joined by MRS. NUALA PELL and MR. PHIL ANDERSON in studying a student's model of a future Roger Williams building. This occurred earlier this year at a Trustee-Student Luncheon.

Not To Be Forgotten

Since Dr. Gauvey is out of town, and I know that he would want very much to contribute to your tribute to Dr. Fulton, I am taking the liberty of sharing with you part of a letter he has written to Mrs. Fulton:

"It seems like only yesterday

when I first talked with you and Marshall in his office in Providence and we discussed together our dreams for a unique and significant concept for higher education which could be built on Ferrycliffe farm. The two of you made this dream

possible and thus it is that the passing of Marshall symbolises to me the loss of one more strength which has helped in the origins and continuity of Roger Williams College.

"Fortunately, there are many of us who will always remember Marshall's contribution not only in the building but in the growth and continuity of the college and I for one can assure you that this magnificent contribution will never be forgotten."

I too share the thoughts Dr. Gauvey has expressed.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ralph E. Gauvey

Judge Thomas J. Paolino
Chairman of the Board

Ramsay does now. He has been managing Ferrycliffe since 1957, and likes to point out that the central section of the home will be one hundred years old in 1977. Mr. Ramsay also states that the farm gave up its operation in the late fifties with the last cow being sold in 1962.

"We had talked for a number of years as to just what would be the best use of this land," says Dr. Fulton.

The Fultons did not wish to see a housing development spoil the natural beauty of the Farm's landscape, yet the future for keeping Ferrycliffe as an operating farm was

dim. Ferrycliffe Farm was just too close to the industry of Bristol and other towns.

Dr. Fulton, "You couldn't produce milk, and raise crops, and pay your help that kind of wages."

In 1964 President Ralph E. Gauvey contacted the Fultons by telephone about the possibility of a partial land acquisition. He asked if he and Mr. Gerald Harrington, then Secretary to the College Corporation and later Chairman of the Building Committee, could meet with them to discuss the idea. With his foresight, Dr. Gauvey could well imagine that Ferrycliffe Farm would be an ideal location for the site of a college campus. In his preparation Dr. Gauvey compiled an attractive