

06/24/2006

HEINZ L. ANSBACHER

BURLINGTON — Heinz L. Ansbacher, professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Vermont, died Thursday, June 22, at his home on East Avenue, Burlington, at the age of 101.

Born in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1904, he emigrated to the United States in 1924 where he embarked on a career on Wall Street. Influenced by the psychologist Alfred Adler, he decided to change careers and enrolled in Columbia University where he completed his Ph.D. in psychology in 1937. In 1934, he married Rowena Ripin, herself a psychologist and admirer of Adler, thus starting not only a family, but also a professional collaboration. During World War II, Dr. Ansbacher worked for the Office of War Information interviewing German prisoners, and following a series of other psychology positions joined the faculty of the University of Vermont in 1946, where he remained for the rest of his career.

Together with Rowena, he wrote *The Individual Psychology of Alfred Adler: A Systematic Presentation in Selections from His Writings*, which was published in 1956 and remains the basic reference in the field. The couple produced two more books of the writings of Adler in addition to editing the *Journal of Individual Psychology* for 16 years. Among his distinctions and honors were being named a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Kiel, Germany, and serving as president of the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology.

Heinz and Rowena Ansbacher were awarded honorary degrees by the University of Vermont in 1980 in recognition of their "major contributions ... and many years of service."

Dr. Ansbacher is survived by his four sons, Max of New York City; Benjamin of Burlington, N.C.; Theodore of White Plains, N.Y.; and Charles of Cambridge, Mass.; four daughters-in-law; seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday in the Unitarian Universalist Society, 152 Pearl St. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to the Ansbacher Lecture Fund, North American Society of Adlerian Psychology, 614 Old W. Chocolate Ave, Hershey, Pa. 17033. Corbin & Palmer Funeral Home, 71 S. Union St, Burlington, is in charge of arrangements.