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Obituary--David W Hirst

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OBITUARY

David W. Hirst

David Wayne Hirst, native of Meridan, Connecticut, born on 26 January 1920, died in Madison, Connecticut, on 29 December 2006. He is survived by his wife, Barbara.

David served in World War II as a crew member on transport aircraft flying over the Himalaya Mountains between Assam, India, and Kunming, China.

He received his B.A. from the University of Connecticut in 1950 and his Ph.D. in 1962 from Northwestern University, where he wrote a dissertation, “German Propaganda in the United States, 1914–1917.”

Prior to his career as a documentary editor, he was head of the Recent Manuscript Section of the Library of Congress, 1955–56, and instructor in American History at the University of Maryland, 1956–59.

Subscribers to SEDIT-L will best remember David for his distinguished career with The Papers of Woodrow Wilson at Princeton University where he served as Assistant Editor from 1959 to 1965, Associate Editor from 1965 to 1979, and Senior Associate Editor from 1979 to 1989. In 1987, the Association for Documentary Editing awarded him the Lyman G. Butterfield Award for his work on the Wilson Papers, to which he had “given over 30 years of service helping to edit over 60 volumes.”

On the occasion of David’s retirement, the late Arthur S. Link, Editor-in-Chief of the series wrote: “For his scholarly talents and his dedication and contributions to The Papers, the scholarly world will be forever indebted. For his friendship and wise counsel, editors across the country, and particularly we ourselves, will always be grateful” (Vol. 64 [1991], p. x).

John E. Little
