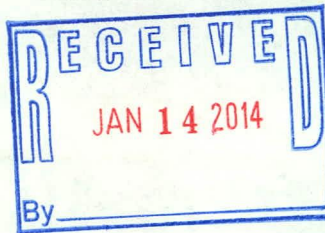


Denton ISD  
061901

NAMING FACILITIES



CW  
(EXHIBIT)

Denton Independent School District  
1307 N. Locust St., Denton, TX 76201

### PROPOSED NAME FOR FACILITY

In accordance with policy CW(LOCAL), the Board has invited written nominations for the naming of a District facility. A period of 45 days will be given for the nominations.

Date of Call for Names: JAN 2014 Facility to be Named: HIGH SCHOOL #4

Expected Date of Board Action: \_\_\_\_\_

The following provisions will govern the naming or renaming of school facilities:

- Facilities will generally be named for deceased persons who have made a significant contribution to society as may be deemed appropriate by the Board, streets or geographic areas within the District, or historical sites.

#### 1. BUILDING AND/OR LOCATION PROPOSED FOR NAMING OR RENAMING

I propose that the HIGH SCHOOL #4  
(Designation of building and/or location)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

#### 2. PROPOSED NAME

be named for: JAMES R. MILLER

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Deceased ☐ DISD staff member ☐ Historical Name  
☐ Geographic Name ☒ Other - DENTON RESIDENT

#### 3. COMPREHENSIVE BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT (with work history if DISD employee) or INFORMATIONAL REPORT if historic or geographic name: (Attach extra sheets if needed.)

SEE ENCLOSURE (1)

SEE ENCLOSURE (2)

NAMING FACILITIES

CW  
(EXHIBIT)

4. REASONS FOR NOMINATION

I believe the facility should be named for this (person) (place) (historical event) because:

SEE ENCLOSURE (1) and (2)

5. Name(s) of person(s) or supporting group(s) responsible for nomination:

ALICE MILLER

JAMIE LEE

Brian LEE

(Signature)

Jamie Lee

(Date)

1-9-14

(Address)

1305 Live Oak Ln  
SAVANNAH, TX  
76227

(Telephone number)

940-337-8055

This form must be submitted to the Superintendent prior to

(Date)

1/30/14



James R. Miller, whose creativity and new ideas helped the University of North Texas establish such programs as the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science, died of lung cancer Dec. 5. James R. Miller

Miller, who was 85, served as dean of the UNT College of Education from 1985 to 1991. His time at UNT started in 1977 as associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Education.

"Over at the university, his life was devoted to that place," said his wife, Alice Miller. "He would dream of new programs and new ideas."

During his time at UNT, he wrote the proposal and gained legislative approval and funding for TAMS, a two-year residential program at UNT for talented high school-age students.

One of Miller's biggest worries was that the United States didn't graduate enough math and science students, Alice Miller said.

"He could rattle off statistics you wouldn't believe to prove that," she said.

Miller also established the Quality Assurance Program, guaranteeing that education majors graduated with the knowledge they needed to teach, and wrote the \$1.1 million Federal Teacher Corps Grant.

Richard Simms, who served as associate dean while Miller was dean, said it was the largest external grant UNT had received at that point.

"He was the most creative person I knew," Simms said.

Even after Miller retired, he helped create UNT's Emeritus College, a program for people 50 years or older who want to continue learning.

He served as dean of the college until May. CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A memorial service for James R. Miller is set for 2 p.m. Dec. 28 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2200 N. Bell Ave. HOW TO HELP

To contribute to the Dean Emeritus James R. Miller Scholarship at UNT, mail donations to Marilyn Wagner, Lifelong Learning, 1155 Union Circle 310560, Denton, TX 76203-5017

Marilyn Wagner, director of lifelong learning at UNT, said Miller did the research and recruiting for the Emeritus College.



Miller visited the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Southern Maine, where he was told that UNT would be lucky to get 30 people the first year, Wagner said. But UNT had 76 in its first year, and the program has since grown to 300 people, which makes it eligible for grants.

"We'd never be there without him," Wagner said.

Outside of the university, Miller created the Denton ISD Grandparents in Public Schools program, in which grandparents volunteer to help students with their work at local schools.

Simms said that even up until Miller's death, Miller was sending him ideas and proposals to get his input.

"I've never known a guy like him, who could come up with more novel and creative ideas," Simms said. "Some of us are good implementers, but he could come up with the original concepts."

Miller served in the Army during World War II.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in social studies from Purdue University in 1951, followed by a Master of Arts in history from Bowling Green State University in 1961, and finally a doctorate in social studies education and political science from Kent State University in 1969.

Miller taught high school in Indiana and Ohio and coached basketball, football and track. He first started teaching college at Kent State, then moved to the University of Maine before coming to UNT.

He and his wife had three children: James R. Miller II, Jack G. Miller and Allyson A. Miller.

Miller also had two granddaughters, Emily and Hannah, whom he was very proud of, Alice Miller said.

"I met him 62 years ago and we were married in 1949," she said. "I stayed with him through all his education moves. Of course, he meant a lot to me. I tried to back him up in everything he did."

Outside of his work, James Miller enjoyed gardening, computers, playing cards and, most of all, fishing at the couple's summer place in Maine, his wife said.

A memorial service for Miller will be at 2 p.m. Dec. 28 at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Denton.

"He had a wonderful life," Alice Miller said. "He found out he had cancer in August this year, and it just took him fast."

Simms said James Miller was more than a colleague; he was a friend.

"He was almost a big brother sometimes," Simms said. "We had a lot of good times together. It was one of the high points of my 36 years at UNT."

Miller was uncompromising when he was standing on an important principle, he said.

"He wasn't a very big man, but he was tough when the times called for it," Simms said. "He was a great, great friend and a wonderful educator."

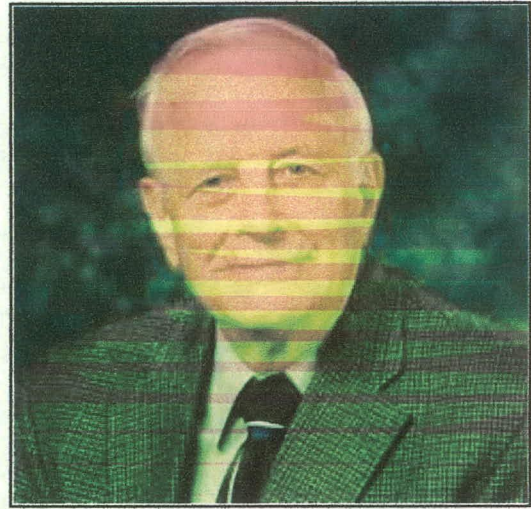
RACHEL MEHLHAFF can be reached at 940-566-6889. Her e-mail address is [rmehlhaff@dentonrc.com](mailto:rmehlhaff@dentonrc.com) .



**James R. Miller**, 85, died Dec. 5 in Denton.

Miller spent nearly 30 years as an administrator and was named founding dean of **Emeritus College**

(<http://call.unt.edu/EmeritusCollege>) in 2009. The college provides travel, classes and learning opportunities for adults older than 50, and is part of the **Center for Achievement and Lifelong Learning**.



Miller retired from full-time teaching in the fall of 1991, after spending 14 years as an administrator in the **College of Education**. He served as College of Education dean from 1985 to 1991. Miller continued on modified service until 1996, including a stint in 1995 as interim dean of what is now the **College of Information**.

Miller also is credited with developing the concept and drafting the proposal for the **Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science** (<http://tams.unt.edu/>).

Miller was a World War II veteran.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Dec. 28 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2200 N. Bell Ave.

Posted on: Wed 07 December 2011

**College of Education** (<http://honors.unt.edu//category/story-tags/college-education>) **College of Information** (<http://honors.unt.edu//category/story-tags/college-information>) **Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science** (<http://honors.unt.edu//category/story-tags/texas-academy-mathematics-and-science>) **Obituaries** (<http://honors.unt.edu//obituaries>)

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