

Dr. Ralph E. Leigh, 71, Dies Here

Dr. Ralph E. Leigh, 71, 301 Park Ave., prominent Grand Forks physician and surgeon and University of North Dakota alumnus, died Saturday morning at his home following an extended illness.

Dr. Leigh was honored in May by the University of North Dakota as the "father of UND's present alumni program." As association president, Dr. Leigh worked to build up a large and active membership and saw the Alumni Association come to play a major role on campus. He promoted the association's UND Development Fund which has figured heavily in the expansion of the UND campus. He also played a prominent role in



DR. RALPH E. LEIGH
1898-1970

bolstering the UND Medical School when it faced an uncertain future during the 1940s.

Dr. Leigh was born Oct. 13, 1898, in Sabula, Iowa. He attended school in Lakefield, Minn., and entered the University of North Dakota in 1917 where he received a B.S. degree in medicine in 1922. He received his M.D. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1925. He interned at Anker Hospital in St. Paul and completed his surgical residency at Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y.

He was a member of the American College of Surgeons and former president of the North Dakota Chapter of the
(Turn to Page 8, Col. 3)

DR. LEIGH

(Continued from Page 1)

College of Surgeons. He also held the post of associate professor and head of the department of obstetrics at the University of North Dakota Medical School. He headed for many years the Leigh Clinic in Grand Forks and was a member of the medical staff at St. Michael's Hospital for over 40 years. He was former chief of staff at St. Michael's and president of the executive board.

In addition to his involvement with the UND Alumni Association, Dr. Leigh was active in many other civic groups including the YMCA, former president; Red Cross, and Park Board. He was a member of the Elks, Grand Forks Country Club, Lambda Chi Alpha and Phi Chi medical fraternity.

Dr. Leigh married the former Bernice Barnard at Crookston, Minn., on Dec. 25, 1923. She survives as do three sons, Dr. Richard H. Leigh, Dr. James Leigh and Dr. John E. Leigh.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete with Norman Funeral Home of Grand Forks in charge.