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LOS ANGELES TIMES

CALIFORNIA

Obituaries

There are things wrong with higher education; why not seize the opportunity to solve them? James W. Cleary, president of Cal State Northridge from 1980 to 1992

James Cleary, 80; CSUN president guided school through an era of massive change

By STEPHANIE STAGGEL Special to the Times

James W. Cleary, former president of Cal State Northridge who led the institution through a period of unprecedented growth that transformed it from a sleepy, mostly white commuter school to a diverse and respected university, has died.

Cleary, whose 23-year tenure as president was the longest in CSUN's history, died suddenly at his home in Rose, Idaho. He had been in better health in the months leading up to his death, according to his daughter Janet.

Founded in 1968, the university grew from 18,000 students in 1969 when Cleary arrived to more than 28,000 students and 60 degree programs when he retired in 1992. He watched the physical facilities grow from a handful of buildings to more than 100, including the computer landmark Library.

Anatomically, he oversaw the creation of two African studies and Chinese studies departments and established an exchange program with Chinese universities. He also established academic programs in India and other countries.

"It was important to me that we had a high-quality education with higher education, why not seize the opportunity to solve them?"

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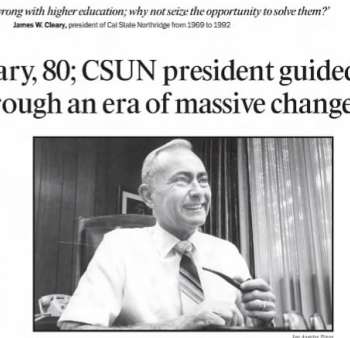
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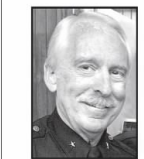
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JAMES W. CLEARY During his 23-year tenure, Cal State Northridge grew from 18,000 students to more than 28,000, offering 90 academic degrees and establishing programs in India and other countries.



JIM TATREAU The LAPD commander signed the department to use DNA and fingerprint technology databases to help solve cases.

Jim Tatreau, 58; pushed to create LAPD cold case unit

By ANDREW BLANKENSTEIN Special to the Times

Chief Jim Tatreau, a driving force behind the creation of the LAPD cold case homicide unit, has died. He was 58.

Tatreau died Sunday afternoon surrounded by his family at his Los Angeles home. He had been in good health until two years ago when he was diagnosed with testicular cancer, his son Jim Jr. said.

Los Angeles Police Department detectives said they had tried to create a cold case unit in 1981 that would use DNA and fingerprint databases technology to reexamine thousands of forgotten murder cases.

It was Tatreau, as captain of the department's Robbery-Homicide Division, who set through bureaucratic obstacles and made the case to department brass.

He thought it was negligent to not make use of technological advances to solve cases, many of which had been gathering dust for decades.

Bob Jackson, a member of the original cold case homicide unit, said Tatreau "ought to have far out there, when it looked like it might not get off the ground."

Since its inception, the unit has solved nearly 10 homicide cases dating back to a century.

Los Angeles Chief Det. Andy Stone Cleary on Monday called Tatreau "a true leader who was ahead of his time in the possibilities of DNA technology."

Working with a quiet wit, Tatreau was known as a fierce advocate for his officers and detectives.

Robbery-Homicide Det. Ronald Y. Ho, lead investigator on the Robert Blake murder case, recalled how despite pressures of a high profile, high-profile investigation, Tatreau allowed him to conduct a broad-ranging inquiry with minimal political interference.

Blake eventually was acquitted in criminal court of the wife's slaying but found guilty in federal court.

Tatreau's instinctively understood what detectives needed and wanted. He said, "He supported our leaders of a case, but he also wanted us to check out every angle."

Tatreau, who set on hundreds of 270 hours of nights, which dealt with disciplinary issues, did not shy away from controversy.

A believer in second chances, he often dealt with those officers who had fallen out of favor.

Jim had a soft spot for the underdog, for the "winger" he called them, said his sister, Terry Tatreau, a retired LAPD sergeant. "If you were being run out of town, you would stay out in front and fight."

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Passings

Robert Rosenthal, 89, WW II bomber pilot prosecuted Nazis

By VALERIE J. HELMAN Times Staff Writer

Robert Rosenthal, 89, a World War II bomber pilot who twice survived being shot down in raids over Europe and later served on the U.S. legal team that prosecuted Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg, died April 29 of multiple myeloma in White Plains, N.Y.

As a pilot, Rosenthal was awarded 16 decorations including the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second-highest award for heroism.

His plane was disabled by an enemy fighter in September 1944 and he suffered a broken arm and other injuries in a forced landing, but was helped to safety by French Resistance fighters. Five months later, he was shot down again during a raid over Berlin, and got home by the use of Rosenthal's courage.

He was in Brooklyn in June 11, 1941. Rosenthal was a member of the board of directors of Brooklyn Law School and was working at a Manhattan law firm when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. He enlisted the next day and trained on combat training.

During Rosenthal's army service, Rosenthal signed a membership agreement with the European Union — a stepping stone for eventual membership. The country formally opened membership negotiations in October.

Rosenthal was born in 1918 in a small town in Pennsylvania, where his father died. He studied the political science in the former Communist

in his final film, "The Green Mile" (1999). Greer — thanks — took over the role of prison guard Paul Edgecomb when the character became too old for Tom Hanks to playfully play. Previously, Greer had been a prison guard opposite Sean Penn in "The Green Mile" (1999).

He was born Robert William Greer on April 2, 1917, in Parkersburg, Ia., a druggist and his wife, who taught

actor's mother-in-law in Rose, Idaho.

Greer never married and had no survivors.

Of a career built mainly on supporting parts, Greer told the Albany, N.Y., Times Union in 2000, "My character actor, in their own little space, in the lead."

Greer said the character in 1960 to pursue acting full time and began playing a series of small-town good guys whose personalities were not far from Greer's own, Ekholm said.

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