



Edward M. Clay

Edward M. Clay, associate professor emeritus of English at California State University, Hayward, died of cancer on July 31 in San Mateo. He was 71. Private funeral services have been held.

Professor Clay, a prolific writer of short stories and a gifted pianist, taught at Cal State Hayward as an associate professor from 1965 until 1992. He also was a noted scholar of the writings of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Herman Melville.

"He was an extremely well liked teacher," said Don Markos, professor emeritus who joined the Cal State Hayward English Department in 1966, one year after Clay. "He was popular with the students. He was a cheerful guy, but had a low-key manner. I remember how he loved to play classical music on his grand piano at home."

Clay, a Minnesota native, came to the university after earning his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in 1965. Earlier he had earned both his bachelor's (1954) and master's degrees (1958) from the University of Minnesota. Clay also served in the United States Navy during the 1950s.

He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Homer and Peg Clay, as well as by two nieces, a nephew, numerous grand nieces and nephews, and Katherine Clay, his former wife and devoted friend of nearly 40 years.