

Fergus Vernon Nygaard was born near Duluth, Minnesota on October 7, 1911 to Joakim and Carrie (Skie) Nygaard, who were immigrants from Norway. In 1931 he graduated from Floodwood High School. He was a 1935 graduate of Augsburg College where he was treasurer of his freshman class, football team captain and president of the literary society. He taught and coached several years at Starbuck, Minnesota. While there he spent his summers at the University of Minnesota until he received his Master's Degree in Education. He was drafted into the service and served in the Signal Corps. Then he applied for officers' school and became a lieutenant and was sent to Texas as a PT officer. He had reached the level of captain when he separated from the service. In 1946 he was married to Lola Mae Tischer of Duluth. He took a teaching job in Montana and returned to Minnesota where he taught in Arlington. Mr. Nygaard served as principal at Waseca High School from 1950-1969. During the last few years of his life he was night manager at the Pick Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis. He was afflicted with cancer of the throat and spent weeks at the Veterans' Hospital. On September 17, 1973 he passed away at his Minneapolis apartment and was buried with military honors at Fort Snelling. He was survived by his wife, who died in 1984, and three children, Laurel, Marybeth and Jeffrey, and by four sisters and two brothers.