

Collection Number:

Collection Title: Jule C. Spach Collection

This is a finding aid. It is a description of archival material held in the Presbyterian Heritage Center at Montreat. Unless otherwise noted, the materials described below are physically available in our reading room, and not digitally available through the World Wide Web.

Collection Overview

Size: 3 document boxes

Abstract: This collection consists of documentary, photographic and primary source materials of PCUS missionary, Brazil mission secretary, PCUS Moderator 1976-77, Quinze de Novembro School (Garanhuns), ABC Literacy Campaign (Recife, Pernambuco) Christian Leadership (Brasilia), and Trans Amazon Highway.

Creator: Jule C. Spach

Language: English

Information for Users

Restrictions to Access

All restrictions lifted when Collection was gifted to the PHC.

Restrictions to Use

All restrictions lifted when Collection was gifted to the PHC.

Copyright Notice

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Preferred Citation[Identification of item]

Jule C. Spach Collection, Moderator PCUS 1976-77, Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat

Acquisitions Information

Gift of Whom: Robert C. Spach

A copy of the original finding aid for this collection is filed in each box.

Sensitive Materials Statement

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concerning an individual's private life are published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the Presbyterian Heritage Center at Montreat, NC, assumes no responsibility.

Biographical Information

Jule Christian Spach, who served 25 years in the mission field in Brazil before being elected in 1976 as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, died March 26 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He was 98.

In his obituary published by the Winston-Salem Journal, Spach is described as “a man of great love, faith and joy” who “lived life to the fullest, constantly helping others feel appreciated and uplifted. He had a fun-loving and adventurous spirit, a smile that lit up a room, a ready hug for everyone, and a steadfast dedication to his family and to serving God and others.”

A native of Winston-Salem, Spach was born on Dec. 21, 1923, to Jule Christian and Margaret Stockton Spach. Upon graduation from high school in 1942, he entered the Virginia Military Institute but soon joined the U.S. Army Air Forces, participating as a B-24 Liberator pilot in the European theater during World War II. After his plane was shot down, he became a prisoner of war at Stalag Luft III. After being liberated, he pursued his studies at Georgia Tech.

In 1948 he married Nancy Webster Clendenin of Greensboro, North Carolina, and received his degree in chemical engineering the following year. He undertook additional studies at Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and what's now Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia.

In 1951, he affiliated as an educational missionary with the PCUS, a forebear to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and spent the next 25 years in Brazil, teaching chemistry and mathematics during his early years there. He became a coach and director of the athletic program as well as president of the school, the Colégio Quinze de Novembro. Later, he administered a massive adult literacy campaign sponsored by the PCUS in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development, or USAID.

In 1973, he became field secretary for the Presbyterian Brazil Mission. While in Brazil, he served on the board of the Gammon Presbyterian Institute in Lavras. After retiring from mission service, he was made an honorary citizen of the city of Garanhuns, Pernambuco, Brazil.

In 1976 he returned to the United States when he was elected the 116th Moderator of the General Assembly of the PCUS. After completing those duties, he became founding director of the Triad United Methodist Home, now Arbor Acres, in Winston-Salem. He led the Winston-Salem Council for the Homeless and was president of the Senior Services board. He and Nancy delivered meals on wheels for more than 20 years.

He was a member of the board of directors of King College in Bristol, Tennessee; Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina; and Montreat College in Montreat, North Carolina. He received honorary doctorates from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Bellhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi, and King College.

He is predeceased by his beloved wife of 69 years, Nancy Clendenin Spach, and their infant son, Jule Christian Spach III. He is survived by five children: Lynn S. Lane (and husband Edward); Margaret S. Cuningham (and husband Robert); Anne S. Griffen (and husband Thomas); Cecilia S. Welborn (and husband Gayland); and Robert C. Spach (and wife Gail Robards Spach). He is also survived by his brother Dr. Madison Stockton Spach of Durham,

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North Carolina, as well as 15 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren. The family also appreciatively acknowledges Mary Lu Whaling, his dear friend and companion over the past few years.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Eastern Time on Saturday, April 16, at Salem Funeral Home, 2951 Reynolda Road, in Winston-Salem. A reception will follow. A link to the livestream of the service will be posted on the Salem Funeral Home website. (From Presbyterian Outlook, March 30, 2022)

Subject Headings for Collection

Jule C. Spach Collection

Scope and Content

1965-2016

Content List

Box 1

Folder 1	Donation form
Folder 2	Album contents 1950, 1951, 1960, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1966 Christmas greetings News clippings Telegrams
Folder 3	Presbyterian Missions in Brazil, ABC Crusade 1965-1968 & 1973 Photos of original poster Spach's master's thesis (UNC-G) 1973 "The ABC Crusade"
Folder 4	Presbyterian Missions in Brazil, ABC Crusade 1965-1968, 500,000 Brazilians Learned to read and write 1965 Literacy Campaign
Folder 5	"Christian Leadership" Program PCUS Missions in Brazil 1969
Folder 6	Documents related to the history of (USA) Presbyterian Missions in Brazil "Roughing it for Christ in the Wilds of Brazil" by Albert Lehenbauer "How the Gospel Entered Garahuns" "Historia do Colegio"
Folder 7	Trans Amazon During Jule Spach's time as General Sec. of PCUS Mission-Brazil Maps – Photos "A Conquista Da Ultima Fronteira"
Folder 8	Moderator of PCUS 1976-77 #1
Folder 9	Moderator of PCUS 1976-77 #2
Box 2	
Folder 10	Moderator of PCUS 1976-77 #3
Folder 11	Moderator of PCUS 1976-66 #4
Folder 12	Moderator of PCUS 1976-77 #5
Folder 13	News clippings 1975-1977

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Folder 14 Correspondence PCUSA News Brief 1991
 Transcripts of interview with the Spach's 1986 & 2016

Folder 15 Vamos Acabar Com O Analfabetismo

Folder 16 Scrapbook copy 1976-77

Folder 17 Envelope of items from travels during 1976-77

Box 3

Folder 18 Scrapbook pages 1976-77

Presbyterian Survey magazines

June -Aug 1976

Oct – Nov 1976

Feb – Mar 1977

June – Aug 1977