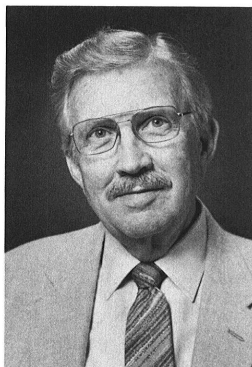


## James B. Kendrick, Jr., 1920–1989

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The death, on February 15, 1989, of James B. Kendrick, Jr., brought to a premature close a distinguished career of almost forty years and one more closely associated than most with the University of California. At the time of his death Jim had only recently retired from his duties as Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources and was beginning to enjoy the fruits of retirement with Evelyn, his beloved wife and companion.

Jim was born October 21, 1920, into a family that would become nota-

ble for its record of service to the University of California and plant pathology. Jim's involvement with the University started early. His father was a noted and active plant pathologist at the Davis campus, introducing Jim to botanical sciences and the academic life of the University of California. Jim's first career choice was medicine, but with the advice of his father he kept up his interest in botany. His father's influence played a role in his ultimately selecting plant pathology as a career as it did with his brother Ed, bringing the number of plant pathologists in the Kendrick family to three.

Jim received his bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and then moved to the University of Wisconsin for his doctoral studies. He was awarded the Ph.D. in plant pathology in 1947, following two years of service in the U.S. Army during World War II. He first joined the University of California as a junior plant pathologist at the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside in 1947, and became a professor of plant pathology at the University of California, Riverside, in 1961. Jim Kendrick's research activities at Riverside emphasized diseases of vegetables, including studies of the major problems in southern California affecting lima bean, pepper, cantaloupe, watermelon, celery, cauliflower, spinach, potato, and tomato. His primary interests were in diseases caused by soilborne plant pathogens *Rhizoctonia*, *Pythium*, and *Fusarium*. Jim Kendrick initiated some of the early soil microbiology studies on population levels of pathogens in agricultural soils, in relation to their levels in native soil, and to their disease-producing capabilities. He also initiated one of the first extensive projects on organic chemicals as soil fungicides, testing more than 4,000 chemicals in the 1950s for activity against soilborne pathogens, and studying their mode of action and structure in relation to fungicidal activity.

Jim Kendrick, with John Middleton and Ellis Darley, initiated research in the late 1940s and 1950s on the nature and control of air pollutants on crops in southern California, where this problem was first noted by Middleton in the mid-1940s. In 1961 Jim received a National Science Foundation Fellowship that enabled him to pursue his interest in soilborne plant pathogens with Professor Dennis Garrett at Cambridge University, England. During that year he also worked with Dr. Eric Buxton at the Rothamsted Experimental Station at Harpenden, England.

For five years, from 1963 to 1968, he served as chairman of

Plant Pathology at Riverside. He was then appointed University of California Vice President for Agricultural Sciences and moved to the Office of the President in Berkeley. This position gave him an opportunity to use his talents to serve mankind in what would be his final tour of duty with the distinction that marked all his contributions, whether in scholarship, teaching, or administration.

Jim Kendrick was one of the most respected members of his generation of plant pathologists in speaking to agricultural issues. His deep understanding of and respect for fundamental research was combined with a strong commitment to serving the needs of the public and of agriculture. He was one of the first in agriculture to express concern about consumer issues, environmental quality, side effects of new technology, population growth, and the need for more specific food and nutrition policies. He steadfastly defended publicly supported Land-Grant institutions against legal challenges to the missions of agricultural research and extension in California and nationally. But at the same time he was urging scientists to monitor and set priorities for their efforts to ensure their full service to the community. Further, he perceived and spoke persuasively of the adverse implications of legal challenges to academic freedom, which would have destructive influence on agricultural and other research far beyond the limits of his generation.

While administering a large statewide organization with countless local concerns, Jim remained active in vital national and international issues. His counsel and participation was sought by numerous committees appointed by U.S. Secretaries of Agriculture. He served in elective posts in the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. He was active on national committees dealing with the management of agricultural research, and acted as advisor in studies conducted by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment.

Jim's extraordinary success as a scholar and administrator is not difficult to define. His knowledge was deep and wide ranging, but it was conveyed through a personality of great warmth and openness and a wit that was lively and pervasive, both in a formal meeting and among his close colleagues. It is difficult to suggest, except to those who knew him, the degree to which his personality drew people to him, commanded their affection, and, as those who worked under his administrative direction will testify, engaged their loyalty. He gave it the best that he had, and his influence in the groups in which he interacted is still apparent and vibrant.

Jim was singularly happy in his marriage. His wife, Evelyn, meshed her own extensive interests to his and helped him in carrying out his responsibilities. The Kendricks were regular hosts in their home to the many friends and colleagues acquired over the years.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his son, Douglas; his daughter, Janet, his mother, Violet; his brother, Ed; his sister, Elizabeth; and two grandchildren, Amber and Shane. His passing leaves a deep void in the lives of those who were close to him and a happy memory for those who had the good fortune to be influenced by his far-ranging activities.