

Dedication

It is important to note that, after almost two years of working on this book with my friend and colleague Jerry Manion, he passed away on July 18, 2014. As Jerry's department chair (or "Chief" as he'd call me) from July 1, 2009 through July 1, 2014, I often would ask him to do something for the department's website and within a day it would be done. As such, I hesitated to ask him whether a history of chemistry at UCA had been written, because I didn't think that it had and I knew it would be a formidable task. When he said that it had not been done, I knew he would get started right away, which of course he did. In fact, on November 2, 2012, I stated in an e-mail exchange that "I was serious about writing something with you" to which he replied with a humorous "You've probably ruined the next couple of weeks for me...." So we began working together on this book, interviewing current and former faculty and alumni and spending time in the UCA Archives with the extraordinary help of Jimmy Bryant, Director. My favorite part of the work was traveling with Jerry and interviewing alumni and former faculty, including Jewel Moore, Mary Good, Jim Duke, and Bob Hankins. I also treasured the times that we encountered a question we couldn't answer right away and had to do some investigative work, often involving some sort of wager.

Jerry began working at Arkansas State Teachers College in 1965 and therefore Jerry had lived almost half of UCA's history. As such, we decided that Jerry would focus mostly on the second half of our history and I the first half, but of course there was considerable overlap. This book wouldn't have been possible without Jerry's long history at UCA nor his deep and abiding compassion for his fellow human beings, which prompted Jerry to keep in touch with our alumni in a way few academic departments ever have. Before Jerry died, I promised him I would finish this book and I am proud and honored to have done so. It is also with great pride, humility, honor, and privilege that I dedicate this book to the life and work of Dr. Jerry Manion. I will miss his friendship, his questioning spirit that prompted all of us to re-examine our thoughts and actions, his incredible sense of humor, his compassion, and his love. The world is an emptier place without Jerry...and faculty coffee gatherings in the mornings will never be the same again without him.

Sincerely, Robert Mauldin