



Paul Edward Sprague Jr.

February 28, 1933 - December 12, 2023

Paul Edward Sprague, Jr., 90, of Milledgeville passed away peacefully on December 12, 2023. He was born February 28, 1933 in Cumberland, Maryland to Miriam Drake Sprague and Paul Edward Sprague, Sr. Paul was preceded in death by his sister, Beverly Sprague Rodda and his brother, Donald Sprague. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Susan Karr; his daughters, Sharon Sprague (Michael Samson) of Chicago, Illinois and Wendy Sprague (Martin David) of Fort Collins, Colorado; his sister, Susan Sprague Curry (James) of Brownsville, Vermont; and four grandchildren; Dylan Samson of Los Angeles, California, Cody Samson of San Francisco, California, Alexandre David and Samuel David of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Paul received his undergraduate training at Rutgers University; his graduate work in Art and Architectural History was begun at Oberlin College and completed at Princeton University where he received the PH.D. He served in the United States Air Force as a navigator from 1954-1957.

Paul taught Art and Architectural History at Lake Forest University, the University of Notre Dame, the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. He also spent a semester as visiting professor at Seijo University in Tokyo, Japan. Paul was appointed Director of the Illinois Historic Structures Survey which documented buildings in every town in Illinois of above 500 in population. His firm, Historic Preservation Services, served many clients in the Midwest. Paul was the

author of numerous books and articles on early modern architects and the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School.

A celebration of life will take place on Friday, December 29, 2023 at 2:00p.m. with visitation at 1:00 p.m. at Williams Funeral Home and Crematory in Milledgeville, Georgia.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **29**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Williams Funeral Home & Crematory - Milledgeville
1670 N. Jefferson St.
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-2148
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

Celebration of Life

DEC **29**. 2:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory created a Webcast will start approximately 10 minutes before the service in memory of Paul Edward Sprague Jr.



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - December 29, 2023 at 01:51 PM

MZ

“ I had the honor of being one of Dr. Sprague’s students at UW-Milwaukee in the late 1980s and early 90s. I believe I took every lecture class that he taught at the time. Dr. Sprague’s teaching and insights instilled in me a lifelong love and deep appreciation of the artistic and cultural achievements of Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright and the Chicago and Prairie School architects. I am proud to have earned an “A” in every one of his classes. After my first degree in urban studies I went on to earn a degree in architecture. During this time I kept taking classes from Dr. Sprague when I could. I recall a remarkable lecture he gave at the school of architecture I believe was titled something like “Why the Robie House Doesn’t Have a Front Door”. This lecture was one of the most deftly argued I have ever had the chance to witness as he walked through the morphology of houses proceeding Robie to make the case of why Wright designed Robie the way he did. I also asked him to review a paper I had written about Louis Sullivan’s ornament for a history class I was taking in the school of architecture which, incidentally, he didn’t have to do, but instead he reviewed it. I’ll never forget how he looked after class as we talked about my paper as he held it in one hand and patted it with the other and said “This is a VERY good paper.” Because I knew I just received an assessment from one the pre-eminent living historians of Sullivan, Wright, and the Prairie School (although he NEVER once said anything like that about himself to his students - I found that out on my own!) I remember this as one of the high points of all my time in school.

My sympathy to all his friends and family. Rest in peace professor...
Mark Zogg, Racine, WI

Mark Zogg - January 12, 2024 at 03:00 PM

SM

“ I remember Paul very well from years ago. His sister, Beverly, was my best friend in nursing school in the mid 1950's and later my roommate as RN's plus Maid of Honor at my wedding in 1958. I often spent time at the Sprague family home in Highland Park, NJ in the mid 1950's.

Shirley Whitehead MacNulty - December 20, 2023 at 10:59 AM