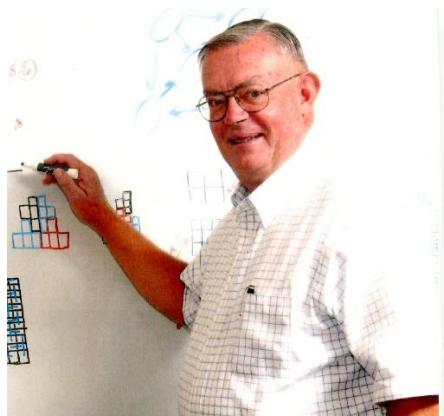




The William Kent Herron “Doc” Papers

Professor of Mathematics 1968-2024



If you have any questions concerning the finding aid or the
William Kent Herron collection
please contact Harlene Hansen (hhansen@coe.edu, 319.399.8787).
This is an open collection.

Collection Summary:

Creator: Kent Herron

Dates: 1962 to 2025

Collection Number: zz 703 2025.1

Quantity: 6 Lineal feet. 3 boxes and one framed photograph

Repository: George T. Henry College Archives, Stewart Memorial Library, Coe College

Copyright: Copyright is retained by Coe College

Restrictions on Access: Unrestricted

Language: English

Abstract: The collection includes Herron’s Lecture notes, correspondence, photographs, textbooks and Celebration of Life materials.

Preferred Citation: William Kent Herron “Doc” Papers, George T. Henry College Archives, Stewart Memorial Library, Coe College

Acquisition: family of Kent Herron

Processing Information: Harlene Hansen, 2025

Scope and Content

The Lecture notes cover both his student career and as a professor. Photographs include 2 of him as a child, trips to Aspen, his love of the outdoors and his involvement with the TKE organization.

Biographical Note:

Kent was born in Sioux City, Iowa June 24, 1940. He grew up in Dubuque, Iowa and received his B.A. from the University of Dubuque. Then went on to the University of Iowa for his Ph. D in Mathematics in 1970. He joined the Faculty of Coe College in 1968. He was still teaching mathematics and computer science until he died in 2024. While at Coe he was awarded several honors including Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1973.

Known to everyone, especially students, as "Doc" he was a mentor who quickly made friends with his students. He was president of the Coe chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. He was a great champion of Coe athletics and served as faculty representative to the Midwest Conference and the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. He became advisor to the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and for decades was dedicated to mentoring and impacting the lives of these young men. He expanded his classroom to include the mountains of Aspen CO. Where he shared his love of skiing and the outdoors with students by teaching a January Term class.

Subject Headings:

J-Term
College Fraternities
Coe College – Faculty
Mathematics- Study and Teaching
Colorado-Aspen
Algebra

Box 1:

Folder 1- Aspen - Ski trips J-term
Folder 2 - Correspondence
Folder 3 - Photographs
Folder 4 - PhD. Thesis " The Generic Minimal Polynomial of an Algebra of Degree Two
Folder 5 - Lecture Notes - Modern Algebra 1976-77
Folder 6 - Lecture Notes - Modern Algebra 1972-73
Folder 7 - Lecture Notes - Modern Algebra 1970
Folder 8 - Lecture Notes - Complex Analysis 1966
Folder 9 - Lecture Notes - Non-Associative Algebra 1966
Folder 10 - Lecture Notes - Non-Associative Algebra 1966
Folder 11 - Lecture Notes - Rings 1966
Folder 12 - Lecture Notes - Homological Algebra 1965
Folder 13 - Lecture Notes - Analysis 1964
Folder 14 - Lecture Notes - Communicative Algebra 1964
Folder 15 - Lecture Notes - Foundations 1964
Folder 16 - Lecture Notes - Group Analysis 1964

Box 2:

Folder 1 - Lecture Notes - Rings 1964
Folder 2 - Lecture Notes - Rings 1964
Folder 3 - Lecture Notes - Linear Algebra 1964
Folder 4 - Lecture Notes - Foundations I 1963 and 1995
Folder 5 - Lecture Notes - Group Theory 1963

Folder 6 - Lecture Notes - Group Theory 1963
Folder 7 - Lecture Notes - Intro to Analysis 1963
Folder 8 - Lecture Notes - Intro to Modern Algebra 1963
Folder 9 - Lecture Notes - Intro to Modern Algebra 1962
Folder 10 - Lecture Notes -Matrix Theory 1962-63
Folder 11 - Lecture Notes - Statistics 1962

Box 3:

Folder 1 - Celebration of Life programs and obituary

Text books:

Communicative Algebra Vol 1 & 2
Letters in Abstract Algebra Vol 1, 2 & 3
The Beacon Handbook
Real Functions
2 plastic cups "Cheers to Doc!"
2 Celebration of Life guest registry

Framed Photograph of "Last Supper" members of Coe Faculty and Administration 2013. Displayed in Archives Reading Room.