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### News Clipping - Idea Of Campus Chapel Born In Dover's Mind

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# Idea Of Campus Chapel Born In Dover's Mind

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**BOILING SPRINGS** — The idea of a chapel for the campus of Gardner-Webb College was born in the mind of the man whom it shall memorialize many years ago.

John R. Dover Jr. believed so strongly in the college and its desire to instill Christian teachings in the minds of young people that he said many times an impressive chapel should be the focal point of attention on the Boiling Springs campus.

This has not been the case in the past, but it shall soon become a reality. Ground will be broken in a few weeks for the John R. Dover Jr. Memorial Chapel. It will be a dream fulfilled for a man who died in August, 1963, but whose family has seen that his dream would come true.

Dover was not only a man who, along with his brother, Charles I. Dover, helped build the Dover Textile Group into a textile empire, but he was a



**JOHN R. DOVER JR.**

man who served the community and his Lord.

He was a member of the Dover Baptist Church. His widow, the former Elaine Hamrick, is the lone remaining charter member of that church. The church was organized in 1925. Dover served the church in many ways including deacon, Sunday School teacher, and church officer. A Sunday School class in the church bears his name today.

Dover's service to Gardner-Webb College was highlighted by his service on the Board of Trustees, including a term as chairman of the Board of Trustees.

He served a term as president of the Shelby Rotary Club and was a member of the Shrine, Elks Club, Cleveland Country Club and North Lake Country Club.

He was named Gardner-Webb Alumnus of the Year. He was presented with the traditional engraved silver bowl. The award was given for his service in three fields: Christian service, contributions to industry and outstanding contribution to Gardner-Webb.

He was also cited in 1959 by the college for his contributions

in the field of education. The Dover Memorial Library carries the family name, symbolic of the Dovers long and continuous interest in the college.

The selection committee which named Dr. E. Eugene Poston as president of the college had John R. Dover Jr. as a member.

"I would never have taken the job as president of Gardner-Webb had it not been for Mr. Jack and Mr. Charles," said Dr. Poston recently. "These two men had a great impact upon my life. Both of them offered me encouragement and helped me in other ways while I was in college and seminary."

"When Mr. Jack asked if I would become president of the college, I knew it would be a difficult job, but he told me he would do all he could and I knew he would stick by his word. I accepted the appointment."

Mrs. John R. Dover Jr. when asked why "Mr. Jack" was so interested in education in general and Christian education in particular, said: "John and Charles were brought up in a Christian home and their father did much for the church and for education. They were raised with the idea that much could be done for the community through Christian education."

Mrs. Dover and the two children, John R. Dover III and Mrs. Jack Vincent, share in the concern for Christian education. Both have shown continued interest in Gardner-Webb College in past years.

There is no way to anticipate the great good that shall come forth from a building such as a college chapel, but what ever it shall be it will continue to show the concern that one family has for the youth of the nation.

SHELBY  
DAWII  
STAR  
2-26-71

DOVER, JOHN R, Jr.  
DOVER CHAPEL



**J. R. DOVER, JR.**

Charman, Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

It gives me great pleasure in my capacity as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Gardner-Webb College to add my greetings to the Alumni to those of my co-workers. The interest the Alumni are taking in the growth of the college and in the permanent endowment campaign is a source of inspiration to the trustees.

Our hope is that your interest may be sustained and that your Alma Mater may continue to serve those who seek her blessings in the future—a future toward which we look with confidence.

J. R. Dover, Jr.

THE PILOT  
APRIL 1948