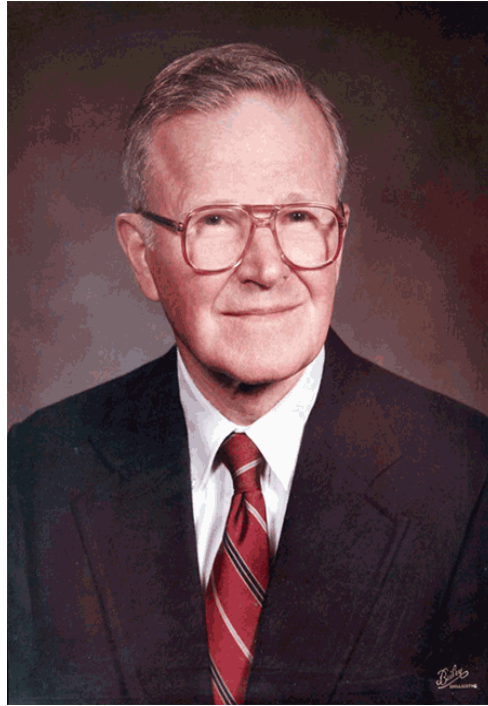


MPA 2015 Hall of Fame Inductee:



William H. “Bill” Plummer



— William H. “Bill” Plummer —

William H. “Bill” Plummer’s newspaper career spanned more than 50 years. He joined the Chillicothe Constitution-Tribune staff in February 1941, just 13 years after the Constitution and the Tribune newspapers merged. Except for about four years, Plummer worked for the Chillicothe daily until his retirement in 1987. Even after his retirement he continued to contribute stories, make photographs and write his popular column, “Reflections.” He was known for his ability to make a story out of a fact or detail most people would consider insignificant. He was a skilled photographer and is credited for setting up the newspaper’s first darkroom in the bathroom of his home. He was a part-owner of the newspaper and served as a mentor for budding journalists who came to serve as reporters and photographers with the newspaper.

Plummer attended Park College in Parkville and the University of Missouri School of Journalism, receiving his degree from MU in 1936. He got his start in 1936 as a reporter with the Harrison County Times in Bethany. In 1940 he was hired as city editor and reporter in Chillicothe. Two years later, he joined the staff of the Kansas City Times. Then, he joined the U.S. Navy in 1944. In 1946, he returned to the Constitution-Tribune, working at the newspaper for the next 41 years, serving as editor, photographer, part-owner, and at his retirement in 1987, as assistant to the publisher.

For his work in journalism, Plummer was honored by the Missouri House of Representatives, the City of Chillicothe, the Chillicothe School District and other local organizations. He served one term on the Chillicothe City Council and was a member of several city and county organizations. In 1988, the Constitution-Tribune established an annual \$1,000 scholarship in his name for a Chillicothe High School graduate. He received the Merrill Chilcote Award during the 100th anniversary banquet of the Northwest Missouri Press Association. He served as president of NWMPA in 1963. Born in 1915, Plummer died in 2001 at age 86.