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Paul Bork Dies

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Bethany Walker.

el-Jimal and Petra); and Justin Singleton and Jared Wilson (Mycenaean Tombs in Sicily? The Mt. Raitano Excavations 2014). (Paul J. Ray, Jr.)



Paul Bork Dies

Paul Bork, beloved professor at Pacific Union College, who influenced Institute of Archaeology faculty Randall Younker and Constance Gane to become archaeologists, has passed away.

Paul F. Bork was born Paulo Bork, in Brazil, on Jan 8, 1924, following the immigration of his parents from Germany after WWI. He graduated in 1945 with a major in Business from Brazilian Adventist College, at São Paulo, where he also studied, English, French and Latin, World History and Geography. These subjects helped to prepare him for his move to the US in 1946. There, he first graduated from Pacific Union College, with a BA in Religion, in 1950, followed by a MA in Church History from Potomac University, in Takoma Park, MD, in 1951, where he also met a married Norma Koester. Between 1953-1959 he was a pastor in

the New England states before returning to his studies, this time at Andrews University, where he received an MDiv in 1960. He then went on to teach Bible and German at Loma Linda Academy from 1960-1969, while working on his PhD, which he earned at the California Graduate School of Theology in 1971. Bork also took class work in Biblical Archaeology at the Pacific School of Religion, at the University of California, Berkeley, London University, and Hebrew University, in Jerusalem.

In 1970, he began teaching at Pacific Union College, serving on the Department of Religion faculty, and for the last two years (1987-1989) of his academic career, as chair of the Department. During that time he participated on archaeological excavations, first at Gezer, from 1971-1973, with William Dever; and later in the 1970s and early 1980s at Jerusalem, first with Magen Broshi (working on the walls of various periods) and then with Yigal Shiloh (at the City of David Excavations). He also had the opportunity to make a trip to Yemen, for the purpose of visiting Sabean ruins, at Marib. Throughout his teaching career, he took students on tours to Egypt and Israel practically every summer, also starting an extension school in Jerusalem, later taken over by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for use in connection with archaeological and biblical studies. He also visited or conducted studies in the countries of Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Greece, and Italy, with side interests in the Mayan civilization, in Mexico and Guatemala. Over the years, Dr. Bork wrote numerous scholarly articles and two popular books: *Out of the City, Across the Sands: Retracing Abraham's Steps from Ur to Canaan*, and *The World of Moses* (in English and Portuguese).

After retirement, Dr. Bork continued to travel extensively, also teaching and giving seminars on archaeology and Old Testament topics. The Borks moved to Loma Linda in 1998. Already in 1995, Bork donated numerous archaeological volumes, artifacts and photographic slides from his personal collection to his alma



Paul Bork.

mater, in Brazil, where the Paulo Bork Biblical Archaeology Museum has since been established. It is the only known biblical archaeological museum in the country of Brazil, now with over 300 artifacts and pictures on display. In December 2010, Dr. Bork attended dedication ceremonies there in his honor.

Paul Bork died on Jan. 24, 2015, following a fall at his home. He was 91 years old. He is survived by his wife Norma, their sons Terry and Paul, and grandchildren Katherine and Paul Francis Maxwell. (Paul J. Ray, Jr.)



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