


2020

## End Notes

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## End Notes

### In Memorium

William (Bill) M. Goza JD, LHD died May 6 in Gainesville. Born in Madison, Florida, August 18, 1917, Mr. Goza was a 5th generation Floridian and direct descendent of John Francis Webb, a signer of the Florida Constitution. He had a distinguished and varied career as a lawyer, judge, and teacher. His avocation was history and forensic science and he was instrumental in fund raising for the founding of the C. A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory at the University of Florida.

Mr. Goza moved from Madison to Clearwater at the age of three, and graduated with a B.S. in business administration from the University of Florida in 1938 where he was a member of the Blue Key, Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, and president of the John Marshall Debating Society. He then went on to earn his J.D. from the University of Florida Law School in 1941 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame the same year. Enlisting in the army during World War II, he served as a First Lieutenant as Battery Commander of the 54th Armored Field Artillery.

After the War, Goza returned home to practice law in Clearwater, serving as a municipal judge, city attorney and founding the law firm Goza and Hall, PA. He is a Retired Fellow of the Jurisprudence Section of AAFS and had been affiliated with AAFS since 1989. Mr. Gory also served as president of the Clearwater Bar Association and president of both the Clearwater Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce. In 1970, he was named "Mr. Clearwater" in recognition of his contributions to the city of Clearwater.

Although a successful attorney, Mr. Goza's true passion was Florida history and forensic science and his contributions are

numerous. Twice President of the Florida Historical Society, he was a student of the Seminole Indians and a Board member of the Seminole War Foundation, participating in the Dade Battle Talks, the Ft. King Road march, and the Prince Diary Acquisition at the University of Florida. His interest in anthropology and forensic science led to a collegial relationship with Dr. William R. Maples, the first director of the Pound Identification Laboratory at the University of Florida. Along with Dr. Maples, Mr. Goza participated in the investigations of the circumstances surrounding the deaths of President Zachary Taylor, Francisco Pizzaro, the family of Czar Nicholas II and Joseph Merrier "Elephant Man." His work led him to become a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and associate director of the Maples Center for Forensic Medicine.

As a philanthropist, Goza was responsible for restoring the Wardlaw-Smith house in Madison, FL; the house is now the Wardlaw-Smith-Goza (WSG) Conference Center. In addition he was a long-time supporter of the University of Florida, donating his extensive collection of rare and unique items such as historical newspapers, imprints, photographs, archaeological reports, and books. In 1976 he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award and in 1985 received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. In a recent interview he stated. "I have many fond memories of my days as a Gator and I am thankful every day for the opportunities the University of Florida has granted me."

Bill Goza is survived by his sister Hazel McLeod, his wife, Sue, two daughters, Anne Folsom and Mary Rouse, a devoted son-in-law and good friend, Wayne Folsom, three grandchildren, a niece and nephew.

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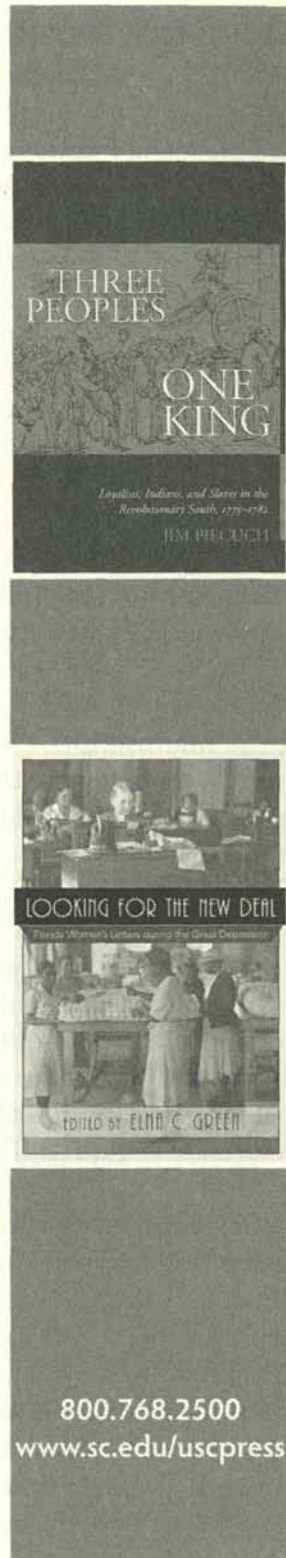
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