

TRIBUTE

A Special Tribute to Carville Earle

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In the spring of 2003, the LSU Department of Geography and Anthropology began planning a symposium to showcase two recent books authored by its faculty—Carville Earle's *The American Way: A Geographical History of Crisis and Recovery* and Miles Richardson's *Being-in-Christ and Putting Death in Its Place*. Both books represented capstone efforts by highly distinguished scholars. As the autumn date of the symposium approached, Carville announced that he would have to retire before the beginning of the fall 2003 semester due to health reasons. The department pressed ahead with the symposium and finalized plans to have Ted Muller provide a commentary on Carville's work and James Fernandez offer remarks on Miles' effort.

Weakened by the cancer in his body, Carville was unable to attend the symposium on September 26, 2003. Nonetheless, after Ted Muller presented his commentary, Carville's son James read a response authored by his father. The department videotaped the proceedings and Carville was able to view the symposium at home shortly thereafter. It was only a matter of days, however, before we received news that Carville Earle has succumbed to the illness he had fought for several years.

As a tribute to our former colleague and the scholar who resuscitated *Historical Geography*, we include Ted Muller's commentary on *The American Way: A Geographical History of Crisis and Recovery*.