

# Millikin University Archives: Staley Library

## **E.M. ‘Turk’ Edwards Collection**

**Collection Number:** 4.07.126

**Inclusive Dates:** 1957 – 1961

**Bulk Dates:** 1957-1961

**Quantity:** 2 boxes.

**Acquisition Information:** Unknown.

**Access Restrictions:** This collection is open for research.

**Copyright:** Millikin University

**Photographs:** No.

**Condition Notes:** Ceramic items in excellent condition with no chips. Wooden door hanger has a torn brittle leather strap on back. Mini paddle has some flaking in the wood varnish, and some staining.

**Processed by:** Lisa Hill, February 2018.

### **Biographical Note**

Elmer Morton “Turk” Edwards was born August 25, 1918 in Danville, Illinois. He graduated from Millikin in 1942 with a degree in Business Administration. While at Millikin, Edwards was a member of Delta Chapter, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, and served as Chapter Advisor for several years. In 1943, Edwards married Belva Curry in Decatur, they had two children (Carol and Nancy). Edwards served in the Army in the European Theater during WWII; he was awarded many medals for his service. Edwards also worked in public accounting for several years, then he served as comptroller at Millikin for five years. Edwards then went on work as the Business Manager of the University of Illinois Press for 21 years. He retired in 1985, and devoted more time to volunteer work and work within the Champaign-Urbana Kiwanis Club. Edwards died in December of 2008.

### **Scope and Content Note**

Some of this ephemera is ceramic, and fragile. These pieces are wrapped in newspaper. These ephemera items do not contain any personal information about Edwards. They are commemorative objects surrounding the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, and Millikin University.

**Series Notes**

*Series 1: Ephemera*

8 items

Commemorative items relating to Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and Millikin University.

**Collection Inventory**

| <b>Folder/Item Title</b>            | <b>Container #</b> | <b>Folder/Item #</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|
| Ephemera-<br>Fraternity Ashtrays    | F-0012             | 1                    | Three ceramic commemorative ashtrays marking 50 years of the Illinois Delta Chapter Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. Off-white with gold trim. Features a picture of the fraternity house, and dates of 1911-1961. One has notches for cigarettes. |
| Ephemera-<br>Oklahoma Ashtrays      | F-0012             | 2                    | Two brown ceramic ashtrays shaped like Oklahoma. 1957 National convention for the SAE fraternity.   |
| Ephemera-<br>Millikin Ashtray       | F-0012             | 3                    | White ceramic commemorative Millikin "Designing for Excellence" ashtray. Approx 7" diameter. Features Shilling entrance.  |
| Ephemera-<br>Wooden SAE door hanger | F-0012             | 4                    | Wooden SAE door hanger. With brittle leather strap push pinned to face. Approx 11.5" x 4". 60 scrawled on back  |
| Ephemera-<br>Wooden mini-paddle     | F-0012             | 5                    | Wooden paddle (approx. 8" x 2.5") marking 1957's  |

|                       |        |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|
|                       |        |   | SAE Spring formal. Reverse side shows fraternity crest and "Illinois Delta Chapter." Faded purple and gold thread attached to handle for display. |
| Commemorative glasses | G-0002 | 7 | Set of 6 1956 100th Anniversary Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) frosted glasses   |
| Commemorative glasses | G-0002 | 8 | Set of 4 1957 Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) National Convention glasses   |