Dr. William Wallace Stewart was born in Gadsden, Ala., January 23, 1904. He was the son of Reverend and Mrs. J. D. [Douglas] Stewart of Coleman College.

After receiving his A. B. degree from Morehouse College in 1926 he taught for three years at the Douglass High School in Columbia, Missouri. In 1929, he joined the faculty of Southern University as a teacher of English. He was appointed Director of the Extension School in 1930-1931; and served as Principal of the Demonstration School and Director of Teacher-Training from 1931 to 1938; and as Director of the Division of Education from 1938 until his death. While a member of the faculty of Southern University Stewart completed requirements for the Master of Arts degree at the University of Nebraska in 1930, from which he also received the Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1945.

For many years Stewart had been active in educational, civic, and business circles. He organized and was the guiding spirit behind the Conference of Negro High School Principals. From 1940 to 1942, he directed the Annual Louisiana Educational Conference. As Director of Research for the Louisiana Education Association, he made many significant contributions to Negro education in the state through his investigations of educational problems. Stewart was an outstanding scholar who published numerous articles on black education in Louisiana. He was a frequent contributor of articles to the Louisiana Colored Teachers’ Journal, The Southern University Bulletin and other publications. In 1948 Stewart was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Education Association. He was also a member of Phi Delta Kappa, national honorary education society; of the American Association of University Professors, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

As Chairman of the YMCA Forum Committee, and as a member of the Inter-Fraternial Council, the Scotlandville Civic Association and other civic organizations, he was active in community affairs. W.W. Stewart, was the founder of Louisiana Association of Negro High School Principals; member of the Commission on Higher Education; Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes; and a member of the Planning Committee, Louisiana State-Wide Program for Curriculum Study.

He was survived by his mother, Mrs. Mary W. Stewart; by one son, William W. Stewart, Jr., of Fort Riley, Kansas; four sisters, Mrs. Evangeline Emanuel of Grambling College [University], Grambling, Louisiana; Mrs. Archie Mae Brown, Longview, Texas; Mrs. Adeline Foster, San Pablo, California; Mrs. Esseline Buford, Phoenix, Arizona; and three brothers, Dr. J. W. Stewart of Gadsden, Alabama; Dr. Robert Chauncey Stewart of Birmingham, Alabama and the first non-white board certified OB/GYN in the state of Alabama; and the famous newspaper correspondent, Mr. Ollie Stewart of New York City.
William Wallace Stewart died on April 13, 1949 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The “W. W. Stewart Hall” [Education Building] on Southern University’s campus is named in his honor.


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