

# Two very significant deaths

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News reached me last night of the deaths of what may have been the last two remaining students of Edward Sapir.

Murray B. Emeneau, 101, Berkeley Dravidianist and Sanskritist

Norman McQuown, 91, Chicago Americanist

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The very first class I attended at the University of Chicago was the first day of introductory phonetics with McQuown. He did not begin with introductory phonetics, but set the class to minutely transcribing a brief utterance. I switched to the true introduction to phonetics taught by Dale Terbeek.

Emeneau participated in the American Oriental Society's plenary session the last time the AOS met in the Bay Area (can it really have been as long ago as 1991?), and I spoke with him briefly afterward. He was utterly charming and helpful!

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