

Elizabethtown College 125th Anniversary
National Historic Preservation Trust This Place Matters Campaign & Campus Historic Building Survey
Based on the National Parks Service Historic American Building Survey
2024 Summer Creative Arts and Research Program SCARP
Ava Barton Class of 2027
Jean-Paul Benowitz, Director of Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships and Public Heritage Studies



Galen S. Young (1912 – 2006)

Jessie B. Young (1913 – 1986)

Dr. Galen Sheirich Young was born on January 6, 1912, in Pennsylvania. He died on July 8, 2006, at age 94 in Fort Myers Florida and was buried in Arlington Cemetery.

“Dr Young graduated from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and then was a surgeon there for 45 years. After leaving the operating room, he continued to teach at the college and saw patients into his 80's. In 1990, he was given the title of Chancellor of PCOM. He served as chairman of the department of surgery at PCOM and at Riverside Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware.”¹

Dr Young helped found Church of the Brethren congregations in Philadelphia and Paoli, Pa and was a founder and moderator of the Drexel Hill Church of the Brethren.²

“In the early 1950's, Dr Young met Dwight Eisenhower, then a candidate for president. Eisenhower, the supreme Allied Commander in Europe during World War II, told Dr Young that treatments by osteopaths had alleviated his chronic shoulder pain during the war. Dr Young told him that no federal funds were allocated for osteopathic medical schools. After Eisenhower was elected president in 1952, he included funds for schools in his first budget.³ The last ten years of his life, Dr Young spent summers in Ocean City, N.J. and winters in Fort Myers, Florida enjoying salt-water fishing, boat rides, dining out, and the company of his golden retriever.⁴

¹ “Dr Galen Sheirich Young,” Find a Grave, accessed June 27, 2024, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/20468399/galen-sheirich-young>.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

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In 1938, he married the former Jessie Magnin and together they had two sons and one daughter. They had five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.⁵” Jessie Young was born on August 6, 1913, and died April 11, 1986.⁶

Dr. Galen S. Young was the Mount Joy HS class of 1930. In 1980 they held a 50th year reunion. In the photo to the right, Dr. Galen S. Young is pictured second to the right in the back row.⁷



“The Rufus P. Bucher Meetinghouse and the adjoining Galen S. and Jessie B. Young Center for the Study of Anabaptist and Pietist Groups were dedicated on October 28, 1989. Embedded in the meetinghouse’s interior walls are a stone from the original Germantown Meetinghouse, as well as stones from the Eder River in Schwarzenau, Germany, where the founder of the Brethren movement, Alexander Mack Baptized his followers.⁸” “The Young Center for the Study of Anabaptist and Pietist Groups also continued to honor the college’s religious heritage under the direction of sociology professor Donald B. Kraybill. Kraybill, under whose leadership



the center gained a reputation for international scholarly research, grew up in a Mennonite family, began teaching at the college in 1971, started studying the Amish in the early 80s, and was named director of the Young Center in 1989. He has written many books and articles about the Amish, including *Old Order Amish*, *The Amish and the State*, *Mennonite Peacemaking*, and *The Riddle of Amish Culture*.⁹”

The Young Center “interprets the cultural and religious heritage of Anabaptist and Pietist communities to the general public via lectures, seminars, exhibits, and conferences.¹⁰ The adjoining Bucher Meetinghouse, named for Rufus P. Bucher, provides ample space for many of the Center’s programs.¹¹”

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ “Jessie Fielding Magnin Young,” Find a Grave, accessed June 27, 2024, https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/88767691/jessie_fielding_young.

⁷ “Mount Joy HS class of 1930 holds reunion,” *Susquehanna Times*, May 21, 1980.

<https://panewsarchive.psu.edu/lcn/sn89077138/1980-05-21/ed-1/seq-6/#words=Galen+Young>
Chet Williamson, *Uniting Work and Spirit: A Centennial History of Elizabethtown College* (Elizabethtown, PA, Elizabethtown College Press, 2001), 294.

⁹ Williamson, 311.

¹⁰ Jean-Paul Benowitz, and Peter J DePuydt, *Elizabethtown College*. (Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2014), 54.; Jean-Paul Benowitz, *Images of America: Elizabethtown* (Charleston SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2015), 46.

¹¹ “About the Center: Elizabethtown College,” Etown, accessed June 27, 2024. <https://www.etown.edu/centers/young-center/about.aspx>.

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“The Young Center’s regular activities include a spring and fall lecture series, an annual banquet, the Durnbaugh Lectures, and the Dale W. Brown Book Award. The Center also supports a fellows program and hosts occasional conferences. Center staff members regularly teach undergraduate classes for the college and conduct research related to the Anabaptist and Pietist movements. The Center houses a variety of research collections that are available to the public.”¹²



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¹² Ibid.

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