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Aarne J. Siirala, 1919-1991

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In Memory of The Rev.
Arne J. Siirala, Th. Cand., Th. Lic., Th.D.

1919 - 1991

Professor of Systematic Theology,

Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, 1963-1975.

Professor, Department of Religion and Culture,

Wilfrid Laurier University, 1975-1985.

Born 8 July 1919 in Finland, Dr. Siirala studied at the Universities of Helsinki and Lund. He served as parish pastor and director of youth work (1943-46), then taught and later became the principal at the Adult Educational College and the Evangelical Academy of the Church of Finland (1946-1960). He studied in New York 1960-63. From 1963-1975 as professor of systematic theology at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, and from 1975-1985 as professor in the Department of Religion and Culture, Wilfrid Laurier University, he taught courses in both schools until his retirement in 1985.

Both as a Luther scholar and as an internationally recognized authority in the relationship of theology and therapy, he was a major influence in reforming the doing of theology and theological education. His books include *Gottes Gebot bei Martin Luther*, *The Wholeness of Life*, *The Voice of Illness*, and *Divine Humanness*.