

Raymond William Adams, Ph.D., Biography



**Raymond W. Adams, Ph.D. -
Class of 1916 - b. May 7,
1898 - d. March 21, 1987.**

From the EHS Yearbook, *The Maroon*: “Rev” “*Better it is to lonely be than with the bad keep company*” Invitation Committee Faculty Party; Junior Play - *Antigone*; Assistant Librarian; Comedy Concert, '16.

Excerpt from: *The Alumni Review* (September 1968)

Professor Adams received his BA degree from Beloit College

in 1920, and his MA (1921) and Ph.D. (1928) degrees from the University of North Carolina. He joined the faculty at Chapel Hill in 1920 and was made Professor of English in 1939. His specialty has been nineteenth century American literature, with truly expert knowledge of the New England circle -- particularly Thoreau. As a national authority on Thoreau, he has written widely on him and been President of the Thoreau Society.

Throughout the years he has several times served as Chairman of the English Department. Of him, Department Chairman Dr. Hollis stated that his retirement will be “a loss not only because of his wide knowledge of his subject, but also because of his human contributions of an eminently sane, humorous, and gentle personality.”

He was listed in *Who's Who in America* in 1960-61